



VOL. 3 NO. 2 MAY 1943

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VERNON V. GREENE

THE SHADOW FOILS A MASQUERADE OF DEATH!

WE DOOD IT!—The True Story of RED SKELTON

BILL, YOU SURE HAVE A SWELL BUILD! DID YOU TRAIN FOR A LONG TIME?

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I DON'T care how old or young you are, or how ashamed of your present physical condition you may be. If you can simply raise your arm and flex it I can add **SOLID MUSCLE** to your biceps—yes, on each arm—in double-quick time! Only 15 minutes a day—right in your own home—is all the time I ask of you! And there's no cost if I fail.

I can broaden your shoulders, strengthen your back, develop your whole muscular system **INSIDE** and **OUTSIDE**! I can add inches to your chest, give you a vice-like grip, make those legs of yours lithe and powerful. I can shoot new strength into your old backbone, exercise those inner organs, help you cram your body so full of pep, vigor and red-blooded vitality that you won't feel there's even "standing room" left for weakness and that lazy feeling! Be-

fore I get through with you I'll have your whole frame "measured" to a nice, new, beautiful suit of muscle!

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My method—"Dynamic Tension"—will turn the trick for you. No theory—every exercise is *practical*. And, man, so *easy*! Spend only 15 minutes a day in your own home. From the very start you'll be using my method of "Dynamic Tension" almost unconsciously every minute of the day—walking, bending over, etc.—to **BUILD MUSCLE** and **VITALITY**.

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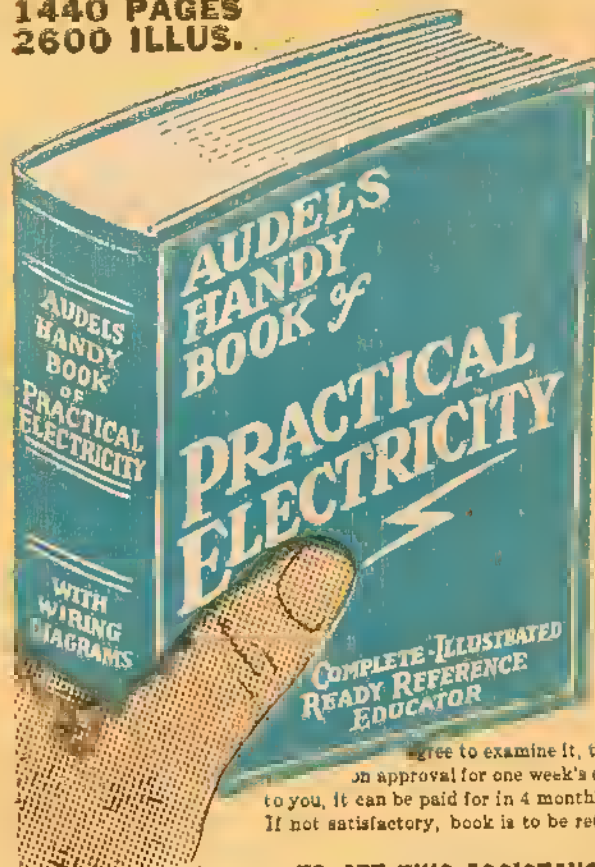
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Shadow—May '43

DO YOU KNOW BY EUGENE L. POLLOCK

—THAT more than ten tons of waste paper have been saved by the British Post Office Department from the tiny pieces punched out when new stamps are perforated? Great Britain's postage stamps are engraved and printed by private firms under government inspection. In 1942 more than eight billion stamps were used in the British Isles alone.

—THAT since the Japanese began their drive against the United Nations, more than twenty countries and possessions in the Pacific have stopped issuing postage stamps? Among them are the Philippine Islands, Dutch Indies, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Hongkong, Timor, Macau, North Borneo, Sarawak, Brunei, Labuan, Nauru, Straits Settlements and the States of Malaya, such as Johore, Kedah, Kelantan, Negri Sembilan, Perak, Pahang, Selangor and Trengganu.

—THAT Shanghai, which once issued its own postage stamps, officially counterfeited stamps? In 1874 the city officials decided to reprint an earlier design, but discovered that the engravings were lost. Instead of ordering a new design, they had the old one copied, believing that no one would be able to tell the difference. But the engraver had overlooked a small detail that was soon detected by stamp collectors. The Chinese dragon had nine bristles in his beard in the counterfeit, while the original stamp showed him with seven!



Frigate Bird of Gilbert & Ellice Islands



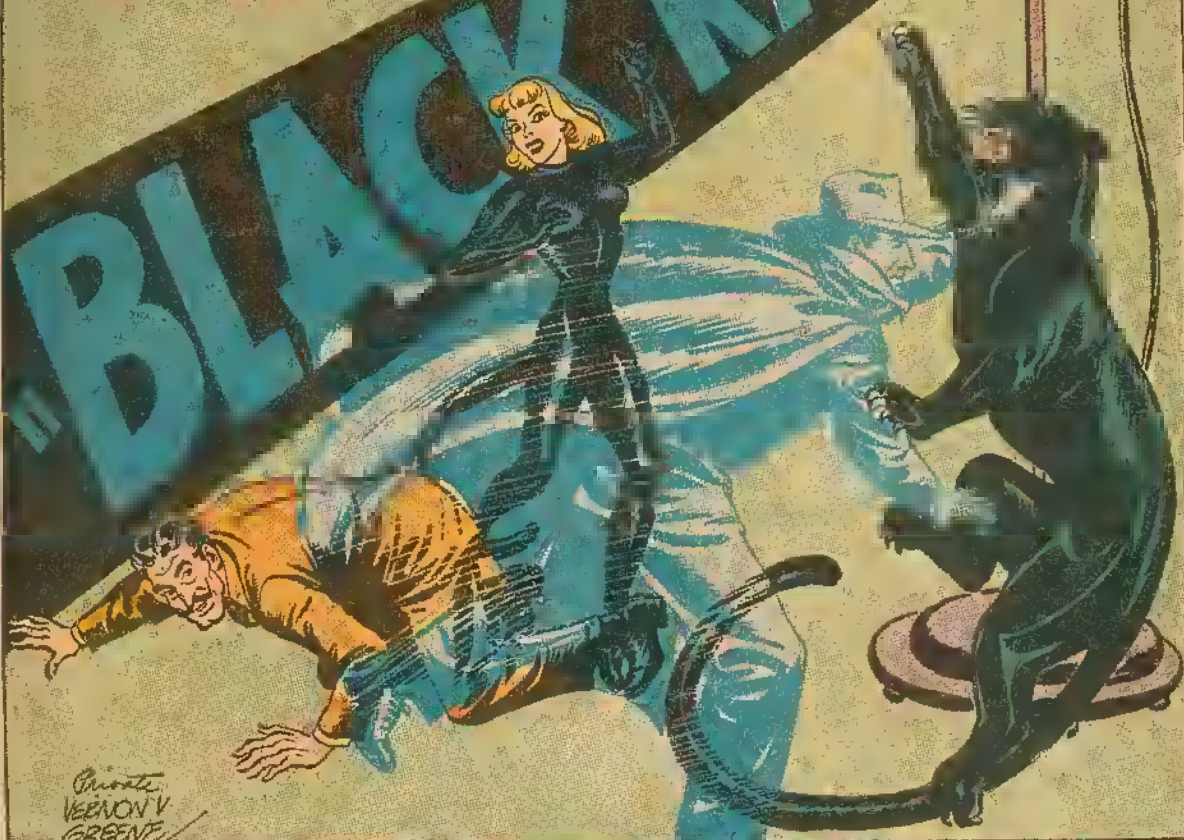
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3719, 3720, 3721, 3722, 3723, 3724, 3725, 3726, 3727, 3728, 3729, 3730, 3731, 3732, 3733, 3734, 3735, 3736, 3737, 3738, 3739, 3740, 3741, 3742, 3743, 3744, 3745, 3746, 3747, 3748, 3749, 3750, 3751, 3752, 3753, 3754, 3755, 3756, 3757, 3758, 3759, 3760, 3761, 3762, 3763, 3764, 3765, 3766, 3767, 3768, 3769, 3770, 3771, 3772, 3773, 3774, 3775, 3776, 3777, 3778, 3779, 3780, 3781, 3782, 3783, 3784, 3785, 3786, 3787, 3788, 3789, 3790, 3791, 3792, 3793, 3794, 3795, 3796, 3797, 3798, 3799, 3800, 3801, 3802, 3803, 3804, 3805, 3806, 3807, 3808, 3809, 3810, 3811, 3812, 3813, 3814, 3815, 3816, 3817, 3818, 3819, 3820, 3821, 3822, 3823, 3824, 3825, 3826

The SHADOW

and the



Private
KEENON V
GREENE

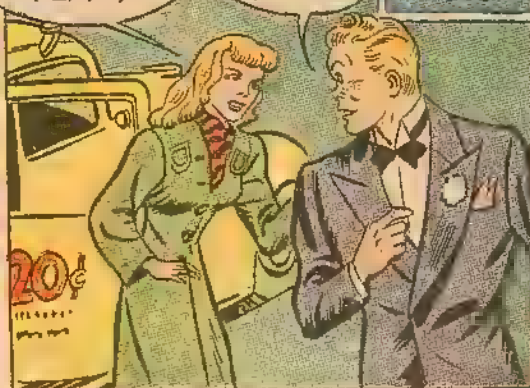
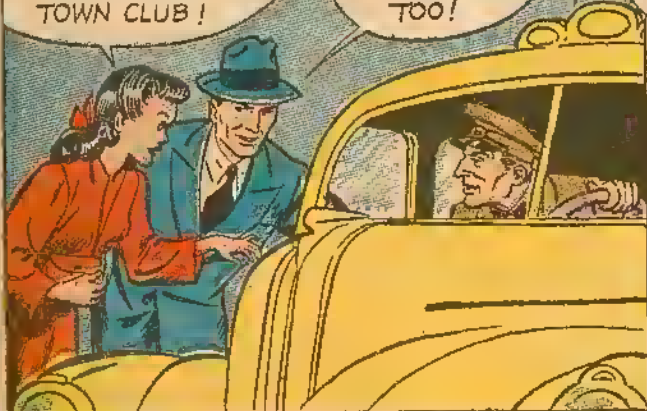
WASN'T IT SWEET OF
SKEET TO INVITE ME
TO HIS FRATERNITY
DANCE? I'M TO MEET
HIM AT THE UP-
TOWN CLUB!

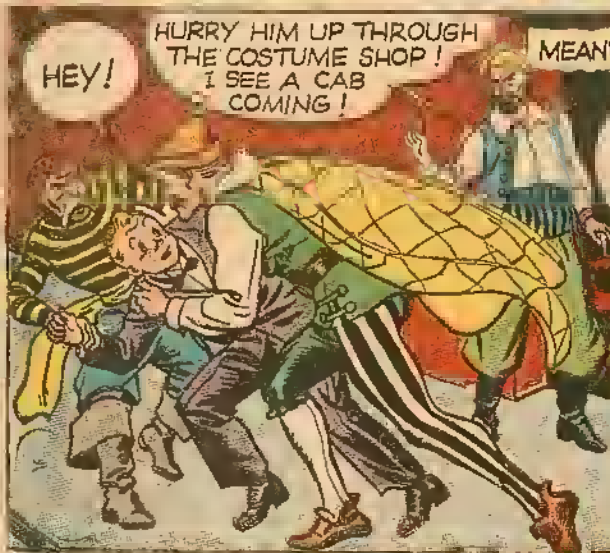
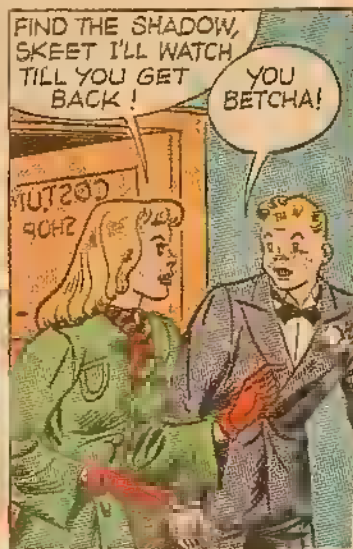
THAT'S ODD,
MARGO. I
HAPPEN TO BE
GOING THERE,
TOO!

SKEET
HARLEY! WHAT
ARE YOU DOING
HERE?

HELLO
MARGO--
OH-OH-- WHY,
IT'S VALDA! WHAT
BRINGS YOU
HERE?

COSTUME
SHOP
2ND FLOOR
STAIRWAY
INSIDE THE
DOOR--







WHILE THE SHADOW UTILIZES HIS INVISIBLE POWERS TO SEARCH FOR ALTHOR, MARGO LANE LINGERS IN THE COSTUME SHOP...

VALDA'S CLOTHES! SHE MUST HAVE PUT ON SOME TRICK COSTUME TWO CAN PLAY AT THAT GAME!



THIS GHOST OUTFIT IS JUST THE STUNT! I'LL SCARE THE WITS OUT OF ANYONE I MEET!



ALTHOR MUST BE SLIPPING, THINKING HE CAN HOAX ME WITH A FAKE GHOST

I WONDER HOW FAR AHEAD THE SHADOW IS



TAKE THIS GUN, VALDA. WHEN I TURN ON THE BLACK RAY, FIRE AT THIS TARGET!

HERE'S MY CHANCE TO POP ALTHOR WITH HIS OWN GUN!



FIRE, VALDA!

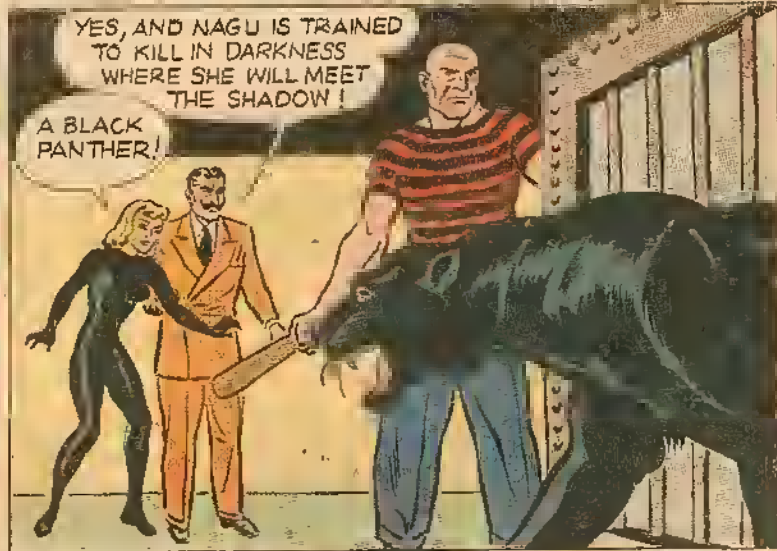
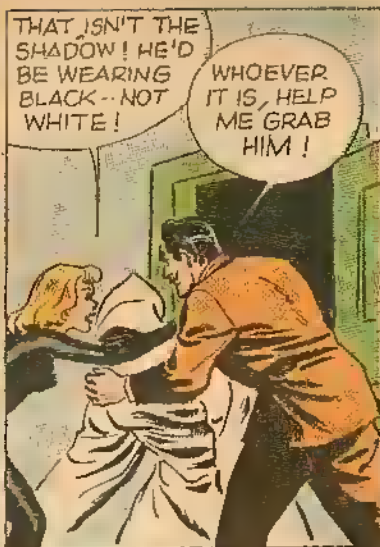
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

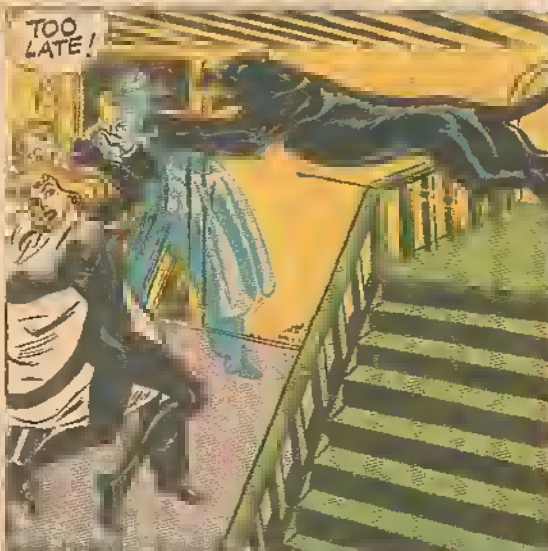
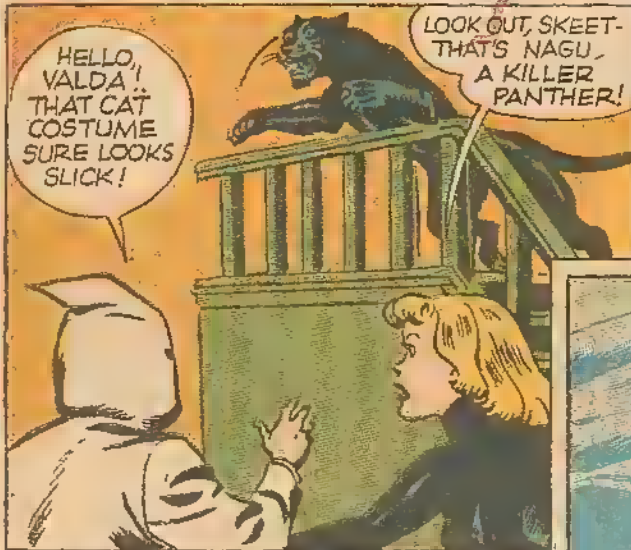
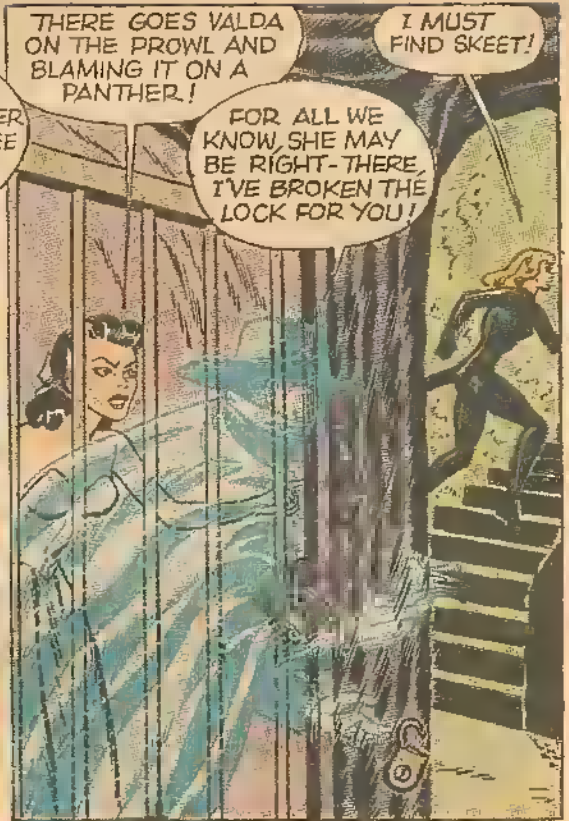


WHY, THE GUN WOULDN'T FIRE!

EXACTLY. THE BLACK RAY STIFLES GUNFIRE! IT WILL DO THE SAME WITH THE SHADOW'S GUNS!







ONLY THE SHADOW
COULD HAVE STOPPED
THAT PANTHER!
NOW LET'S HELP
HIM FIND
ALTHOR-

SWELL
IDEA!
LET'S
GO!

QUICK,
KRON!
STOP THAT
PHONY
GHOST!

THIS TIME
THE GHOST
PLAYS GOAT!

GET
UP
KRON!

SLIP ME
THE GHOST
OUTFIT,
SKEET!

GOOD, THAT
WILL GIVE ME
A CHANCE TO
DUCK THEM!

UH..
H-H.

WELL,
I'LL
BE!

ALTHOR THINKS I
MELTED RIGHT
THROUGH THOSE
BARS!

SO NOW THE
GHOST IS
VALDA!

LISTEN,
MR. SHADOW,
I WANT TO
HELP YOU!

OF COURSE YOU
CAN HELP --
SEE IF YOU
CAN OPEN
THAT DOOR!

I'LL
PULL
THESE
CLAMPS

SAY! THAT WAS A
REVOLVING DOOR --
-- AND THAT DARN
CLAMP HAS SNAGGED
MY KITTY COSTUME!

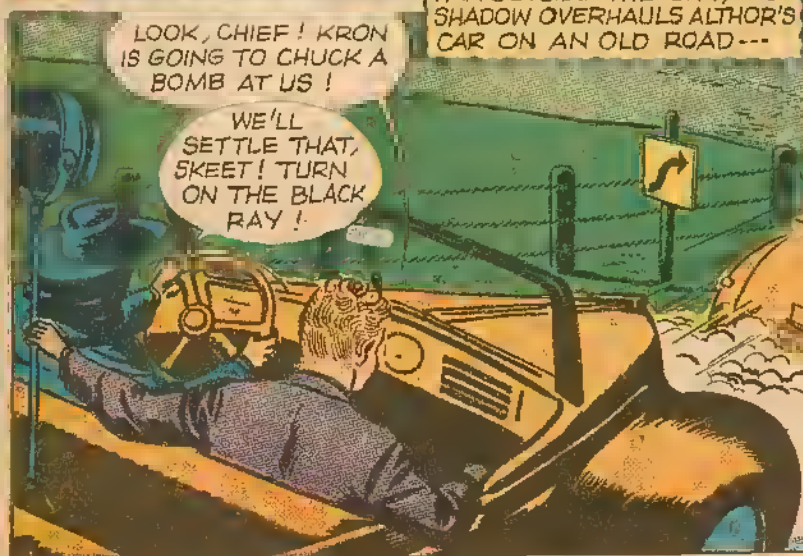
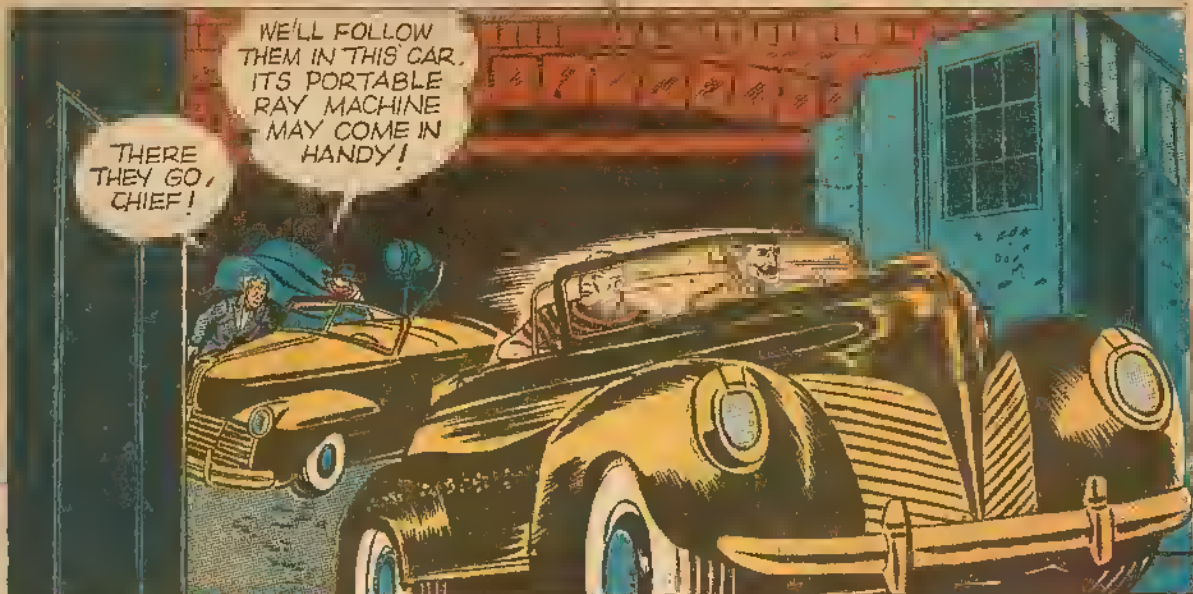
YOU'D BETTER
STAY PUT AWHILE,
VALDA!

CLACK

R-R-RRIP

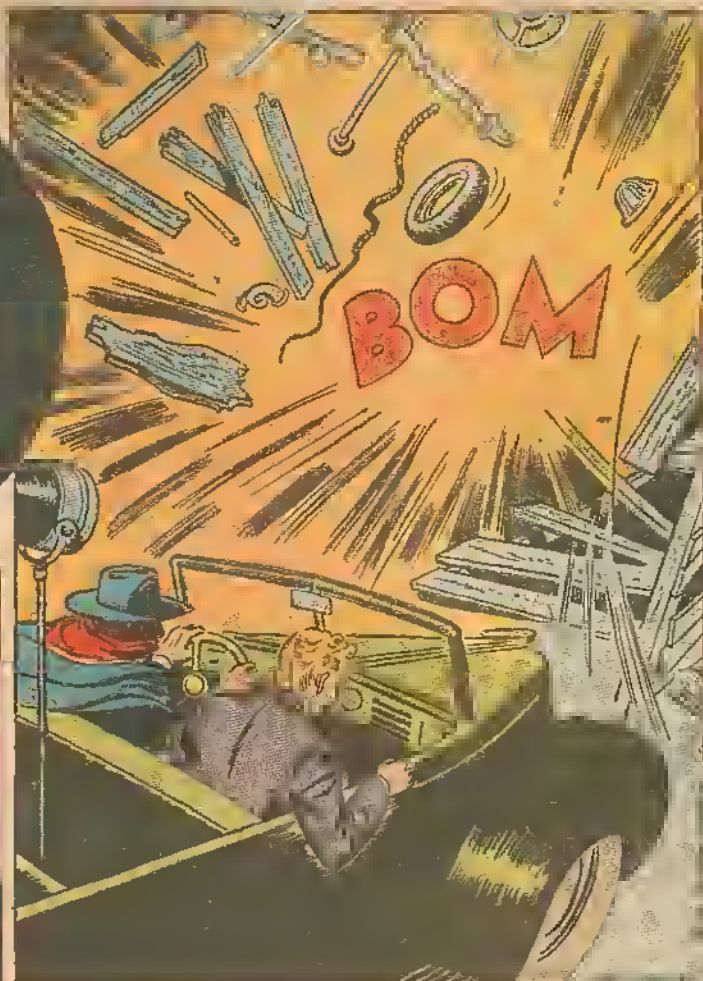
STAY PUT! I'LL
HAVE TO WITH THAT
CAT COSTUME
GONE!





HANG ONTO
THAT BOMB, KRON!
IT WON'T EXPLODE
WHILE THE BEAM
IS ON US!

ONG!



AS SKEET CUTS OFF THE BLACK RAY, THE
BOMB SHATTERS THE BRIDGE WITH A MIGHTY
BLAST TAKING ALTHOR, KRON, AND THEIR CAR
WITH IT!

NOW CUT OFF THE
RAY, SKEET!

O.K.
CHIEF!



HELLO, SKEET.
MEET AN OLD
CHROMO NAME
VALDA!

WHY,
YOU!

SAY,
VALDA, YOU
LOOK SWELL

NO MORE
ALTHOR,
SHREVIE!

I SORTA
FIGURED
IT BOSS

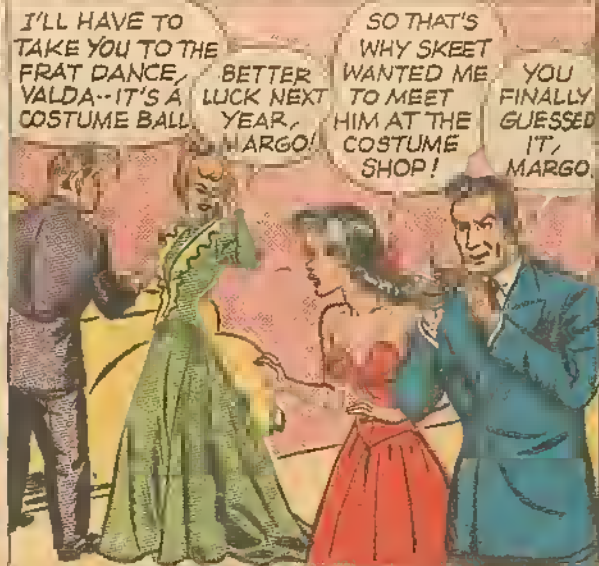


I'LL HAVE TO
TAKE YOU TO THE
FRAT DANCE,
VALDA--IT'S A
COSTUME BALL

BETTER
LUCK NEXT
YEAR,
MARGO!

SO THAT'S
WHY SKEET
WANTED ME
TO MEET
HIM AT THE
COSTUME
SHOP!

YOU
FINALLY
GUESSED
IT,
MARGO





RIDING BY SWIFT PLANE, THE SHADOW IS SEEKING DEVIL KYOTI, HELL-MONSTER WHO SERVES THE JAPS IN THEIR NEFARIOUS SCHEMES OF DESTRUCTION--TO REACH AND COMBAT THIS INSIDIOUS CREATURE, THE SHADOW IS FLYING OVER HONSHU, THE PRINCIPAL ISLAND OF JAPAN!

NO SUCH LUCK, JERRY. DEVIL KYOTI SIMPLY ISN'T HOME TO TEND THE FURNACE --

SAY, CHIEF. THAT'S FUJIYAMA AND IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S GOING TO ERUPT!

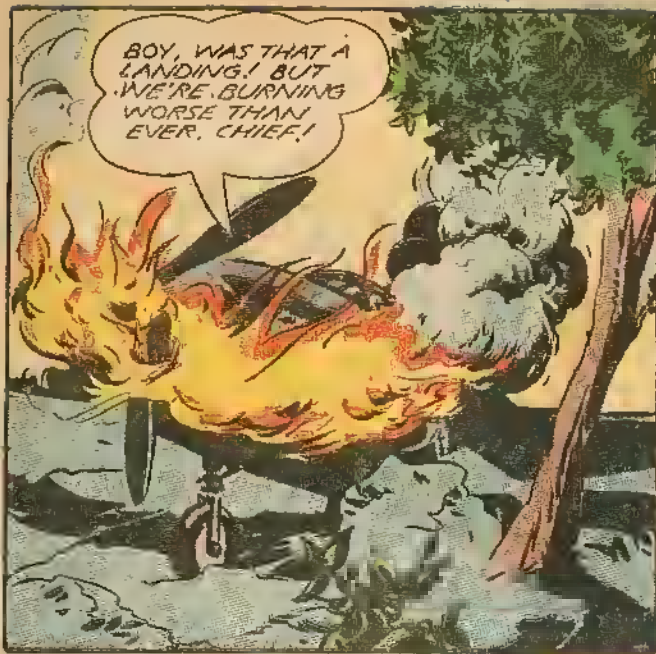
SAY, CHIEF -- OUR SHIP'S ON FIRE!

GOOD. WE'LL FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE!

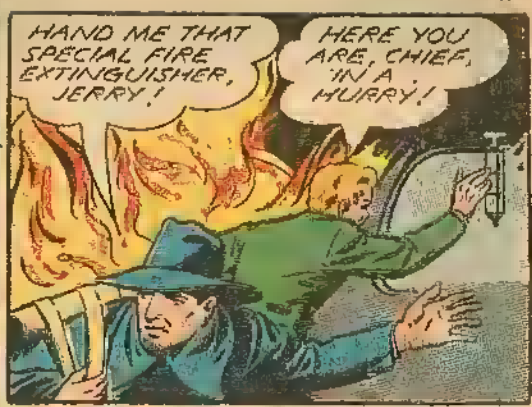
BUT WE'LL KNOW WHERE TO FIND HIM!

SAY, CHIEF, THE JAPS ARE FINDING US WITH GUNFIRE!





BOY, WAS THAT A
LANDING! BUT
WE'RE BURNING
WORSE THAN
EVER, CHIEF!



HAND ME THAT
SPECIAL FIRE
EXTINGUISHER,
JERRY!

HERE YOU
ARE, CHIEF,
IN A
HURRY!



ALL RIGHT.
NOW LET'S
GET OUT
OF HERE
FAST!

BUT AREN'T
YOU GOING
TO FIGHT
THE FIRE?

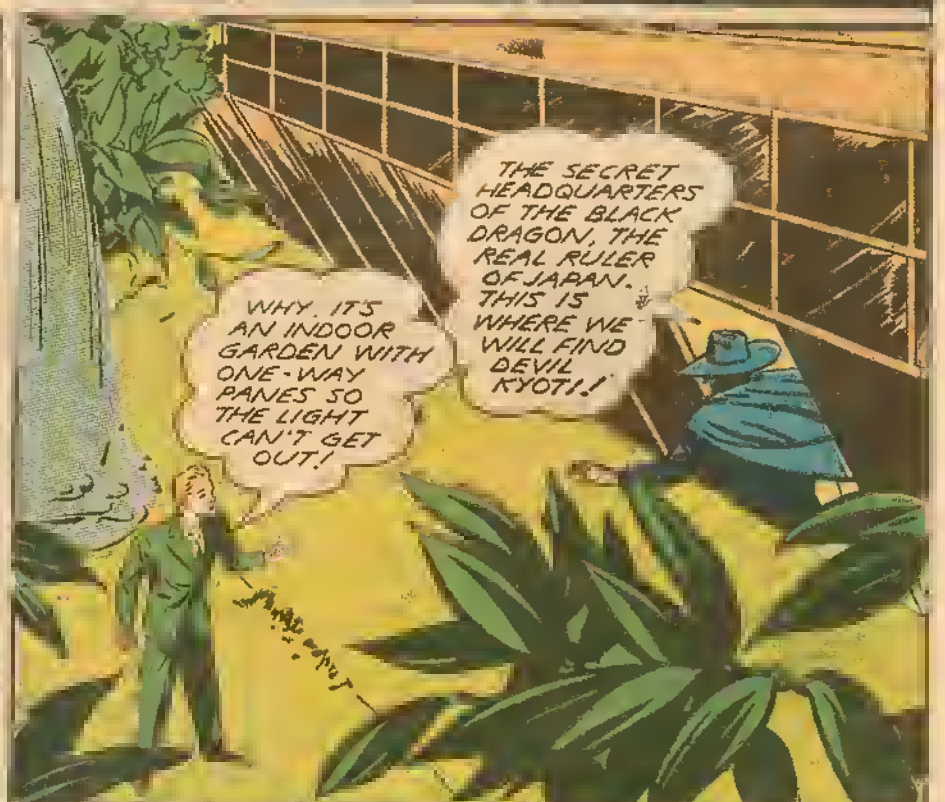
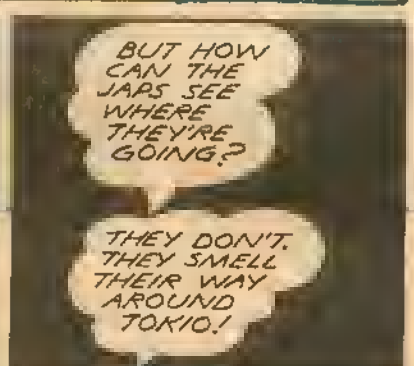
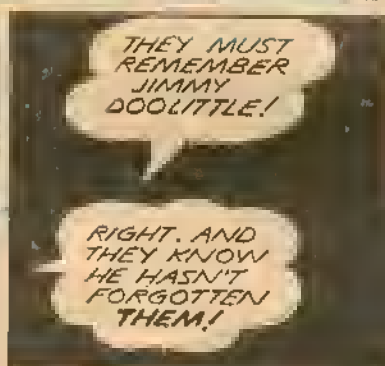
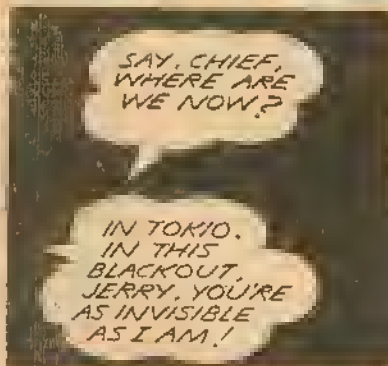


WE'LL LET THE
JAPS FIGHT IT.
I STARTED THE
FIRE TO ATTRACT
THEM!

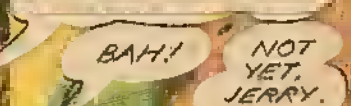
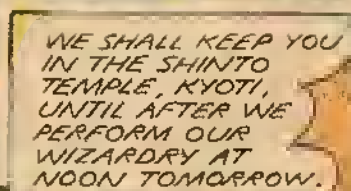
THERE GO
OUR EXPLOSIVES,
JERRY! I
PURPOSELY
BROUGHT
ALONG
PLENTY!

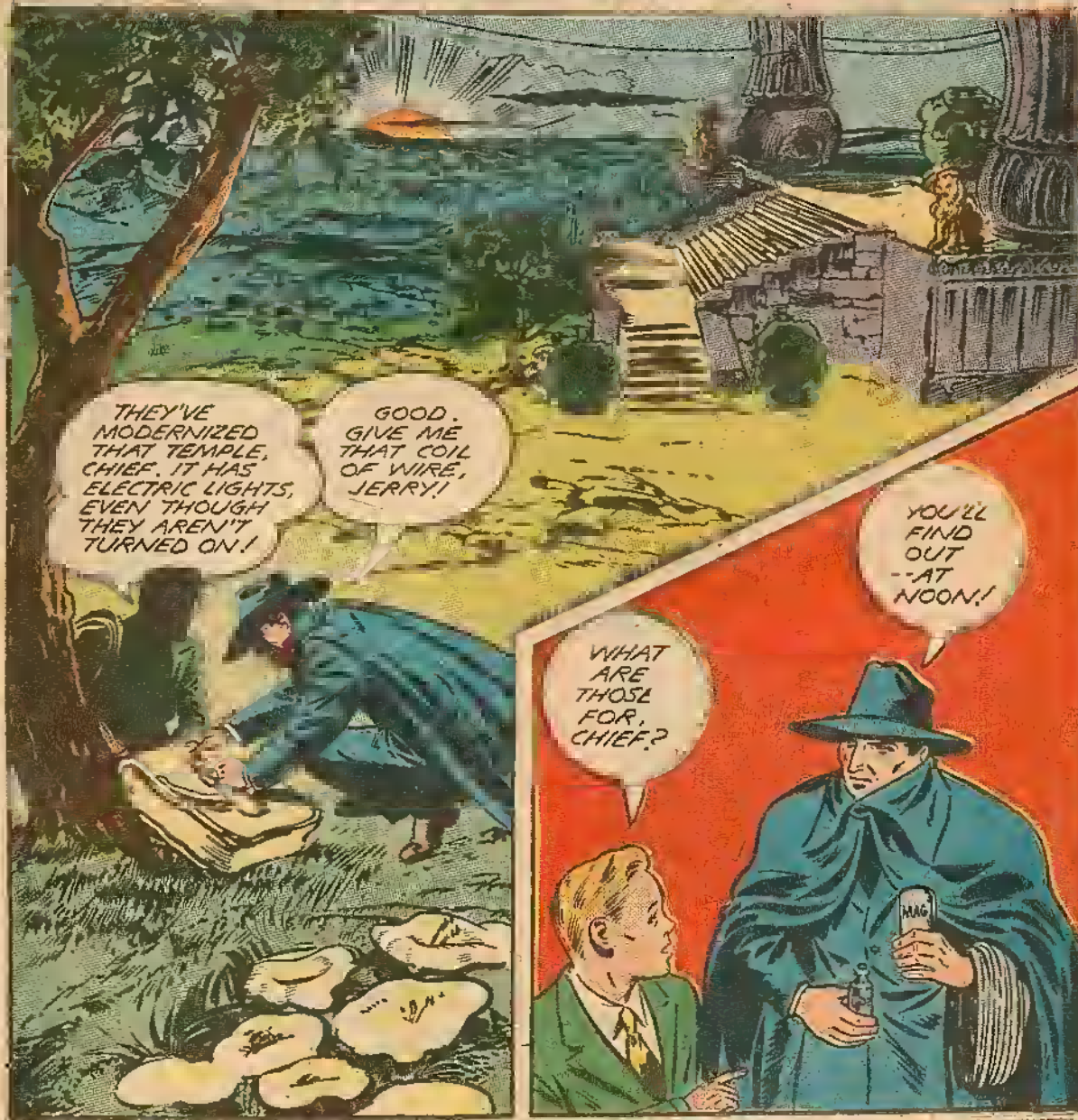
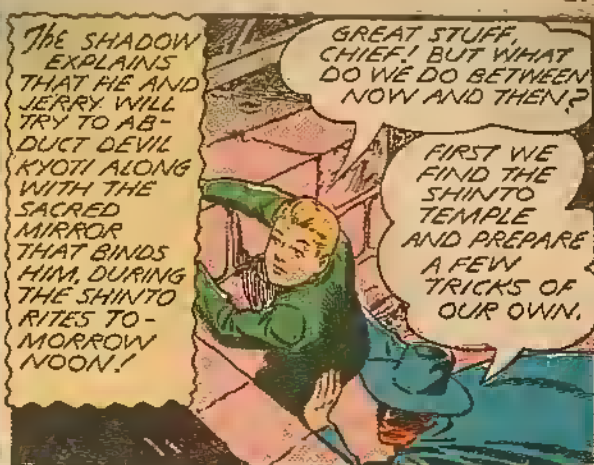


AND
PLENTY
OF JAPS
ARE GOING
WITH THEM!



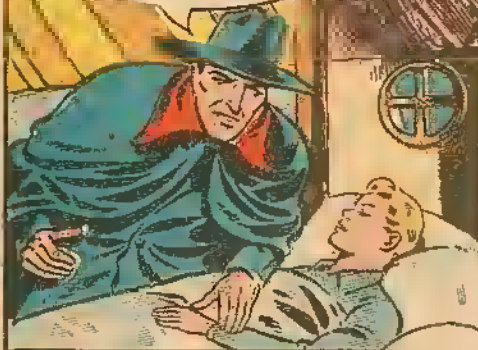






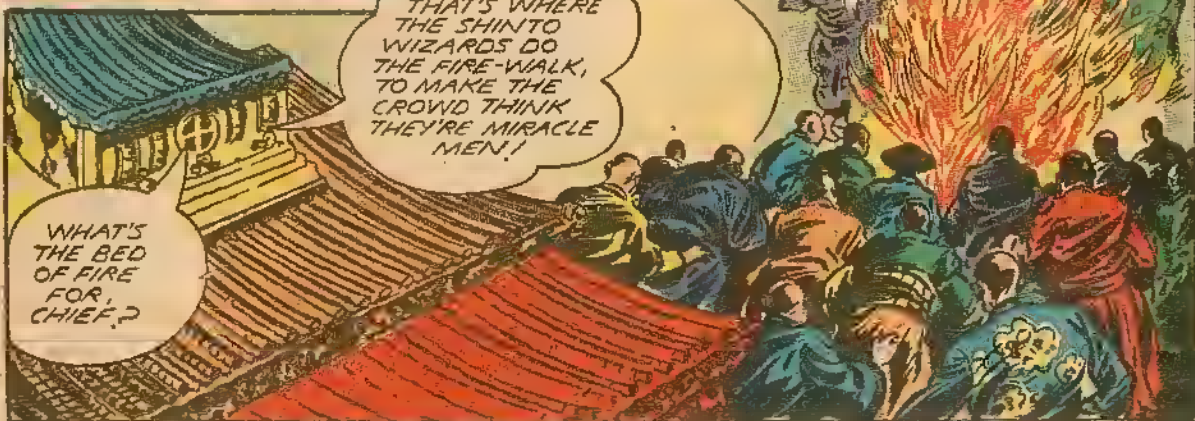
THE SHADOW FINDS A PERFECT HIDING PLACE FOR JERRY TO SLEEP UNTIL NOON --

WAKE UP, JERRY, AND SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!

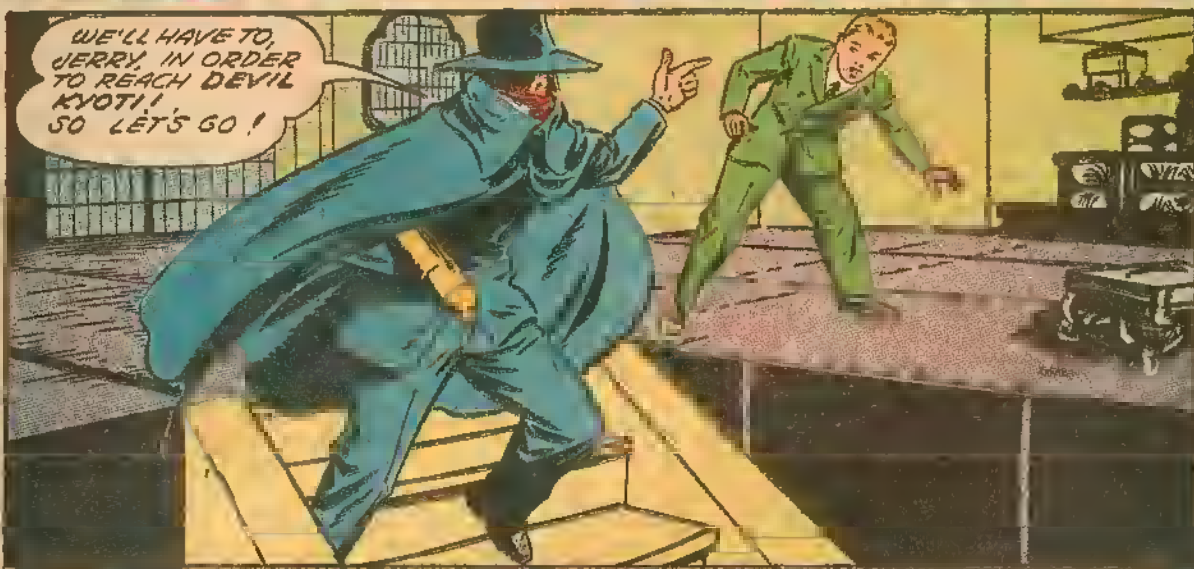


THAT'S WHERE THE SHINTO WIZARDS DO THE FIRE-WALK, TO MAKE THE CROWD THINK THEY'RE MIRACLE MEN!

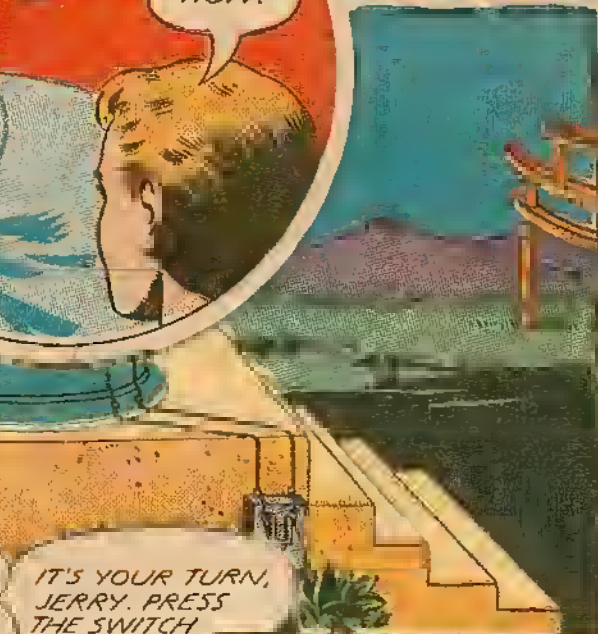
WHAT'S THE BED OF FIRE FOR, CHIEF?



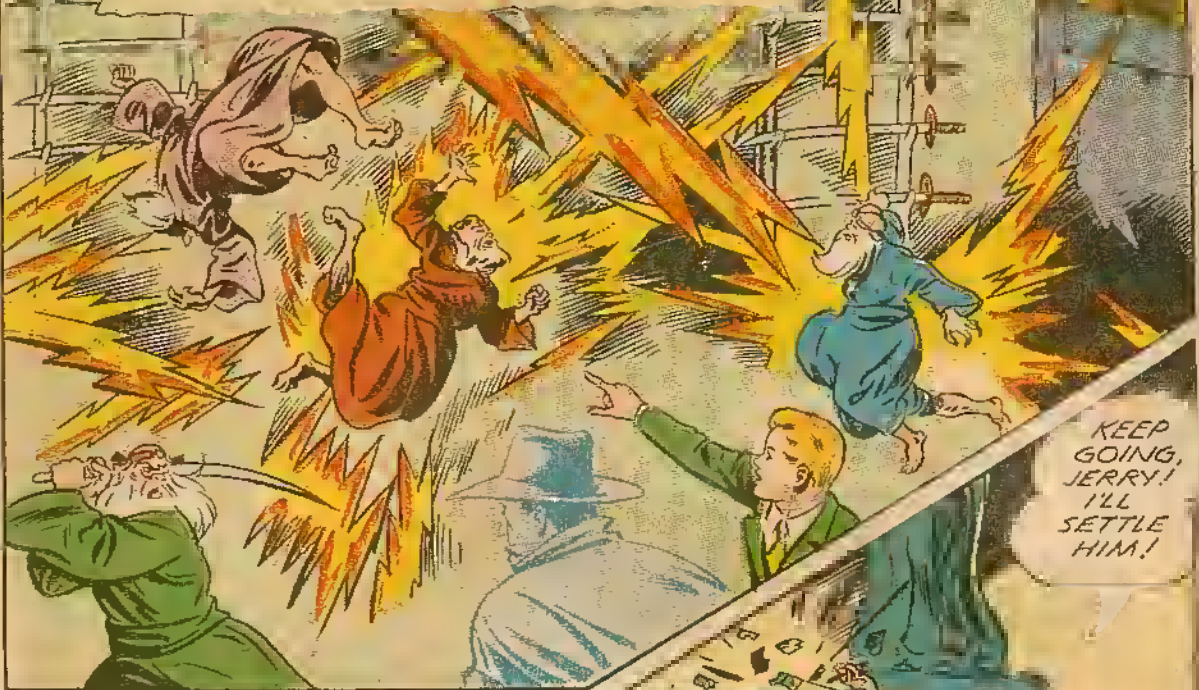
THE SHADOW EXPLAINS THAT OTHER WIZARDS DIP THEIR HANDS IN BOILING WATER WHILE THE REST CLIMB THE LADDERS OF SWORDS!







AS JERRY PRESSES THE SWITCH, THOUSANDS OF VOLTS JOLT THE ASTONISHED SWORD-WALKERS, KNOCKING THEM HELPLESS!



KEEP GOING, JERRY! I'LL SETTLE HIM!

LOOK, OUT! HERE'S THE BIG-SHOT OF THE JAPANESE MOB!

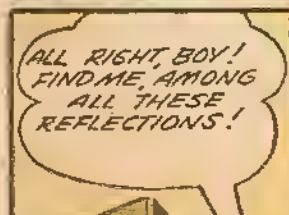
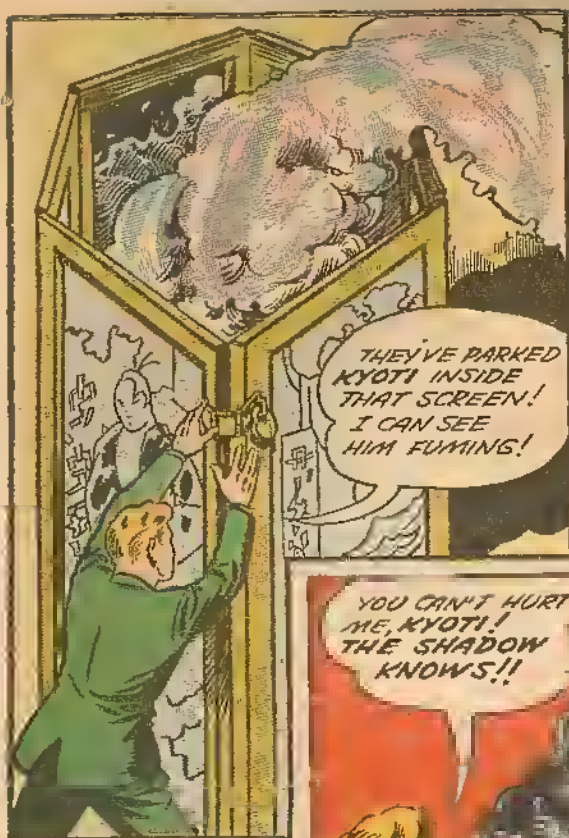
HURRY, JERRY! FIND DEVIL KYOTI! WITH THE SACRED MIRROR SMASHED, YOU'RE THE ONLY THING THAT CAN STOP HIM!

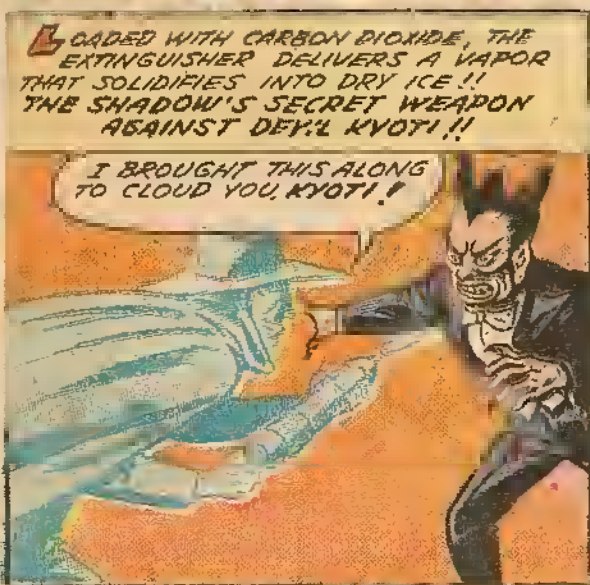
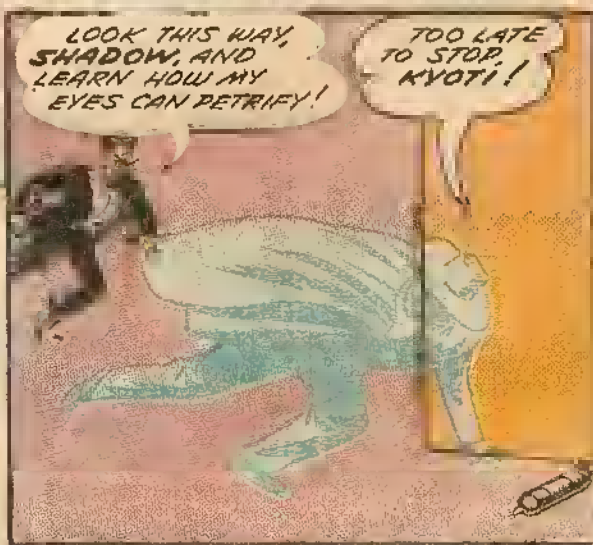
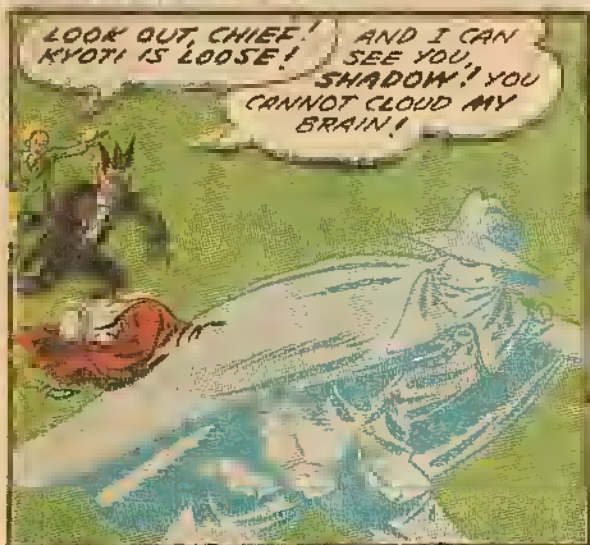
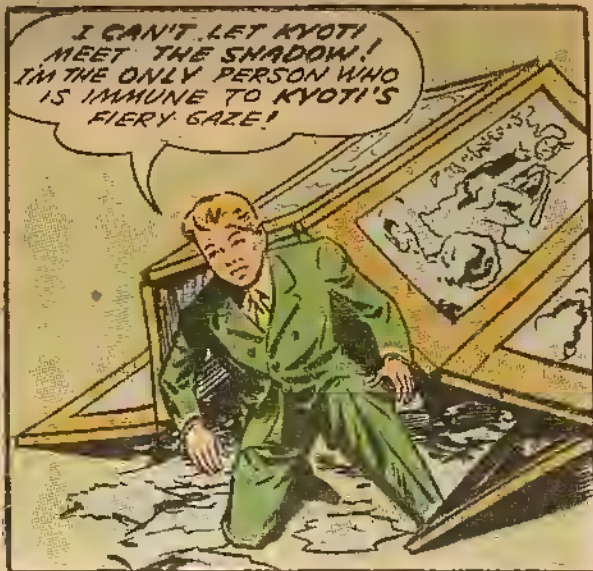
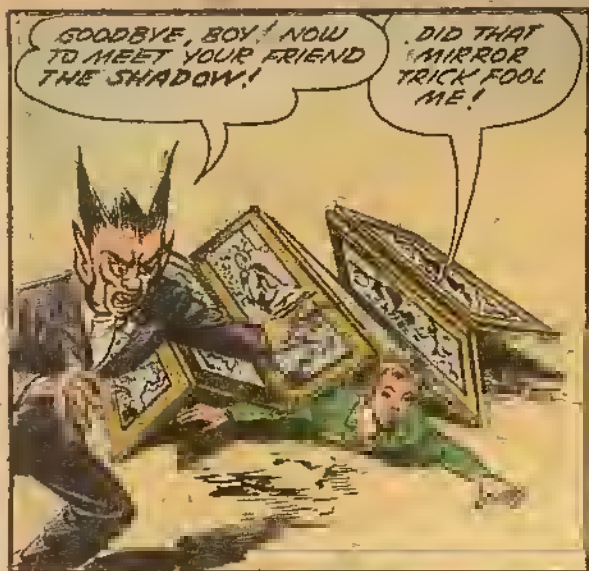
LEAVE IT TO ME, CHIEF!

WHERE DID ALL THAT JUICE COME FROM?

I HOOKED UP THE TEMPLE CIRCUIT TO THE LADDER RACKS WITH THE WIRE I BROUGHT WITH ME!



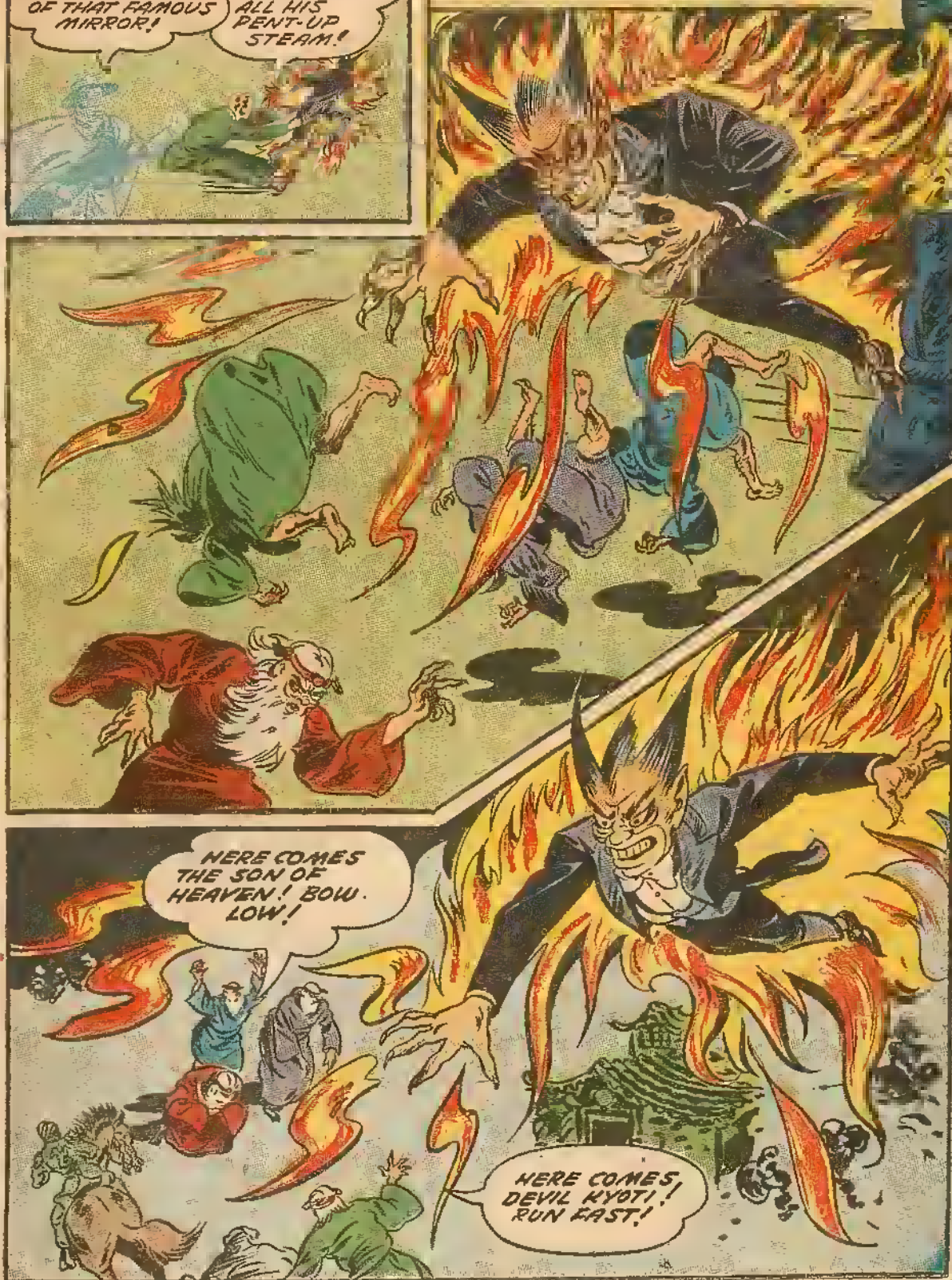


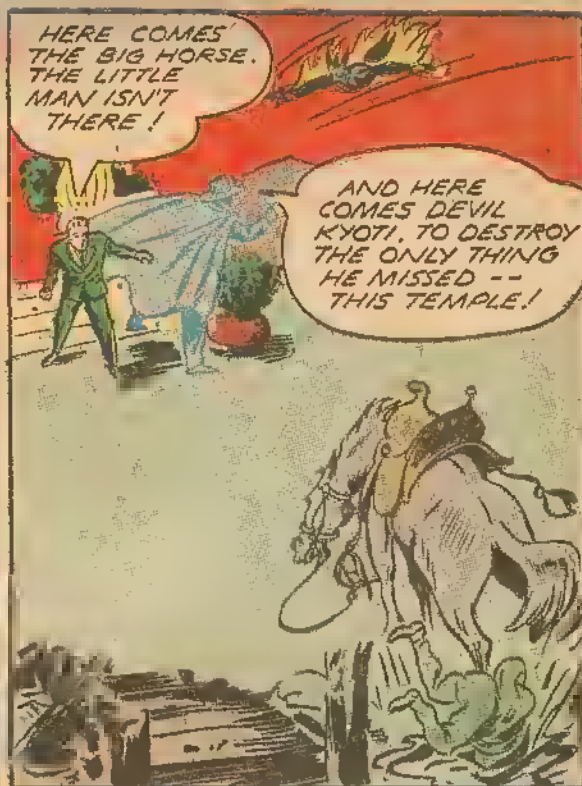


HANG ON TO HIM, JERRY, WHILE I GET WHAT'S LEFT OF THAT FAMOUS MIRROR!

IT'S TOO LATE, CHIEF! KYOTI IS CUTTING LOOSE WITH ALL HIS PENT-UP STEAM!

ROUSSED TO THE HIGHEST DITCH OF HIS FIERY FURY, DEVIL KYOTI ROARS FORTH UPON A MAD DRIVE OF BLIND DESTRUCTION!





CUTTING A FIERY SWATH THROUGH TOKYO,
DEVIL KYOTI ARRIVES AT THE AIRFIELD--

LOOK WHAT
KYOTI HAS
DONE TO
TOKYO!

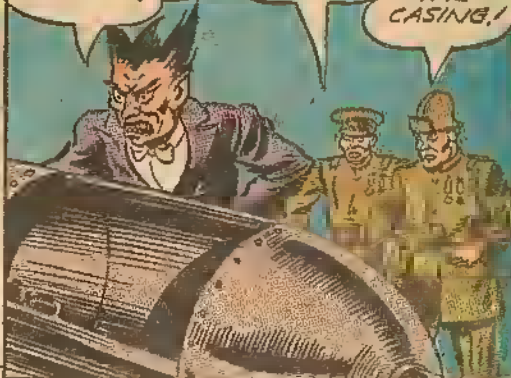
THE LOSS IS
BUT PROOF
OF WHAT
HE CAN DO
ELSEWHERE!

SORRY,
HONORABLE
GENTS. I WAS
OVER-EXUBERANT.

THE SHADOW
AND THE BOY
WERE AT THE
SHINTO TEMPLE,
SO I DESTROYED
IT WITH THEM
INSIDE!

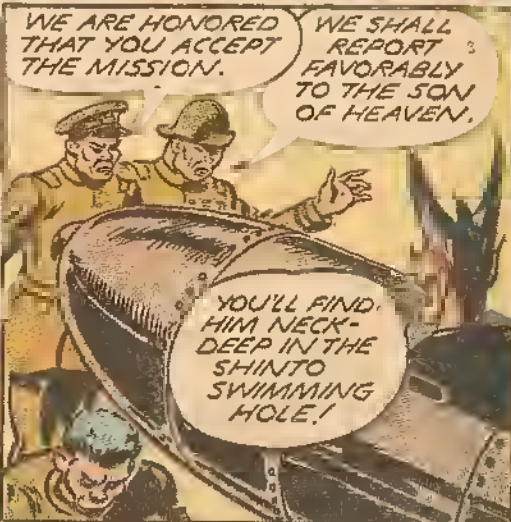
GOOD!
HERE IS
THE BOMB
IN WHICH
YOU ARE
TO TRAVEL.

CALM
DOWN,
KYOTI,
OR
YOU'LL
MELT
THE
CASING!



WE ARE HONORED
THAT YOU ACCEPT
THE MISSION.

WE SHALL
REPORT
FAVORABLY
TO THE SON
OF HEAVEN.



YOU'LL FIND
HIM NECK-
DEEP IN THE
SHINTO
SWIMMING
HOLE!

KYOTI IS ALL
BURNED UP--
AND SO IS
EVERYTHING
THAT GOT IN
HIS WAY!

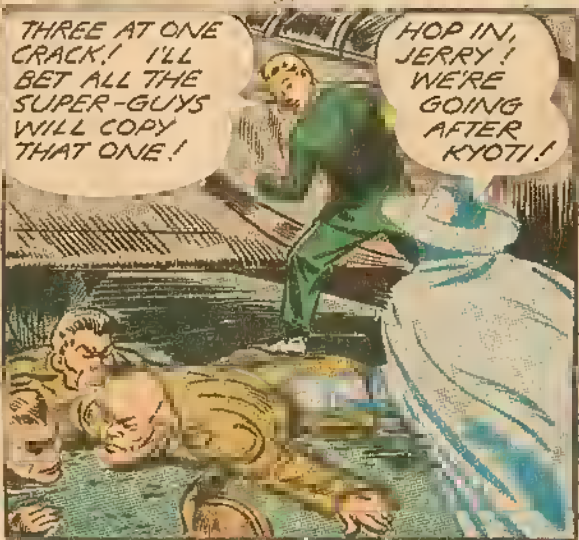
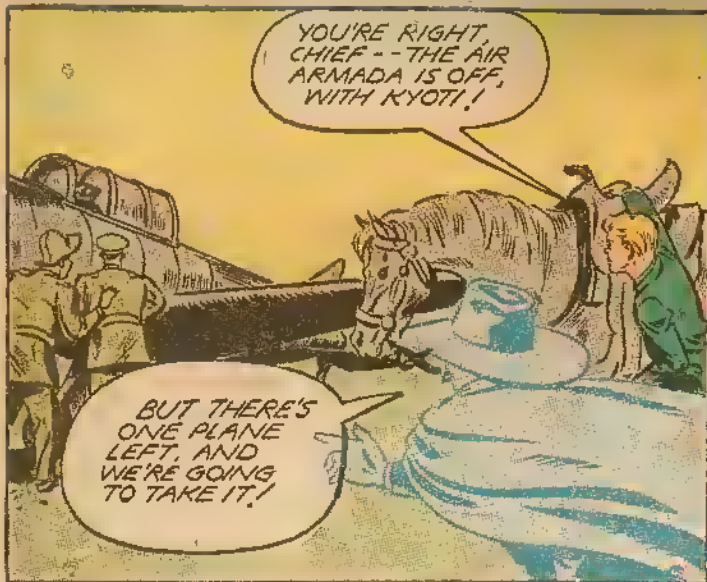
BUT THE BOMBERS
ARE TAKING OFF,
JERRY! THAT MEANS
KYOTI HAS GONE
WITH THEM! WE'LL
HAVE TO FOLLOW!



AH, GENERAL
HOKO. IF WE
COULD ONLY
WATCH DEVIL
KYOTI COMPLETE
HIS MISSION!

I HAVE ARRANGED
IT, ADMIRAL
DUNKO. WE SHALL
FOLLOW IN THIS
OBSERVATION
PLANE!





ALL THIS
IN ONE
MARVELOUS
BOOK

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tricks.

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and training;
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and stunts.

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and recognize en-
emy and friendly
planes.

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and healthy; and
exercises for de-
veloping powerful
muscles.

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you roll and del-
tally in this dis-
tinct art.

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Face on men. If
you'll learn these
winning grips and
holds in physical
combat.

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of numerous and
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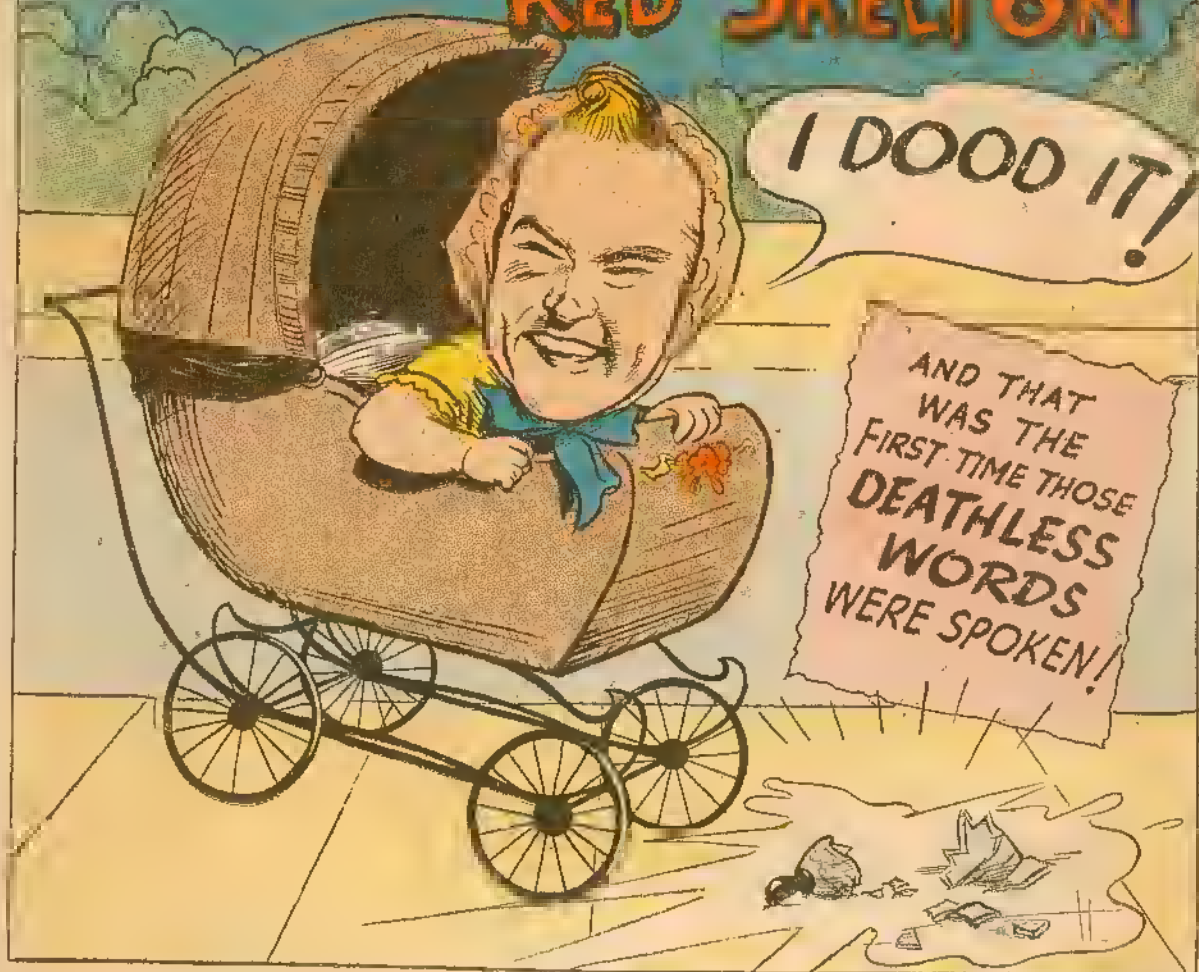
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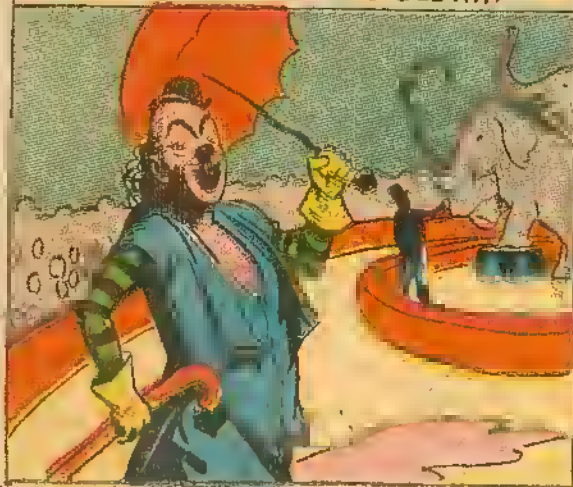
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34

Presenting THE ONE, THE ONLY (HE HOPES) **RED SKELTON**



RED CAME BY HIS PROFESSION NATURALLY BECAUSE
HIS FATHER WAS A CIRCUS CLOWN.



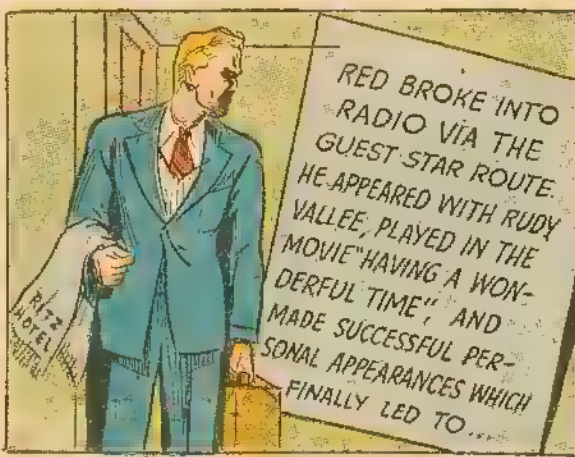
RED MADE HIS DEBUT IN 1927 AS A VERY YOUTHFUL
MAMMY SINGER IN A MEDICINE SHOW. THAT LED
TO VAUDEVILLE AND...



...THE TITLE OF
"AMERICA'S NUMBER 1 DOUGHNUT DUNKER"



RED ESTIMATES THAT SINCE HE BEGAN HE
DUNKED 37,971 1/4 DOUGHNUTS!



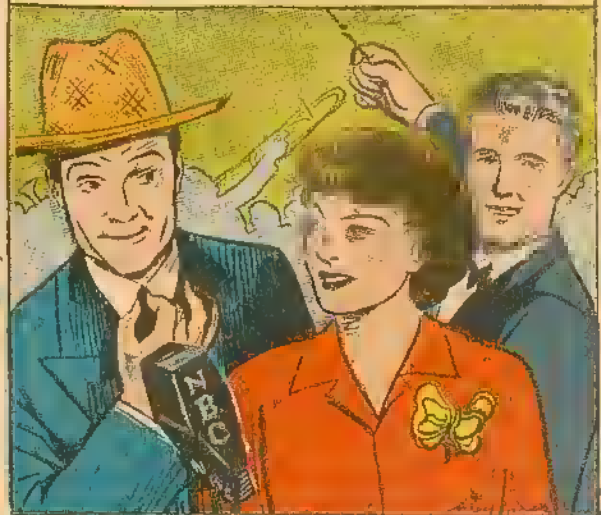
MAYBE THIS SKELTON FELLOW IS JUST WHAT WE WANT FOR OUR RALEIGH CIGARETTE PROGRAM.

YEAH, HE'S PRETTY FUNNY. DARN IT ALL, I WISH I COULD GET TEN MORE COUPONS. THIS MAKES MY FIVE HUNDREDTH, AND I NEED FIVE HUNDRED AND TEN TO GET A HOUSE IN THE COUNTRY AND A STATION WAGON!

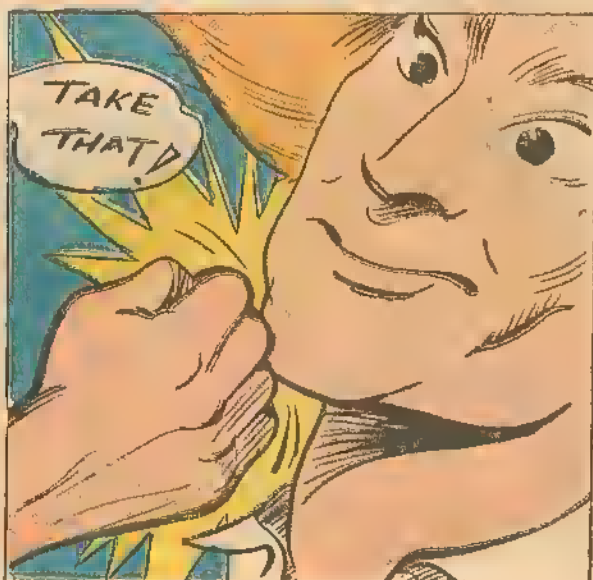
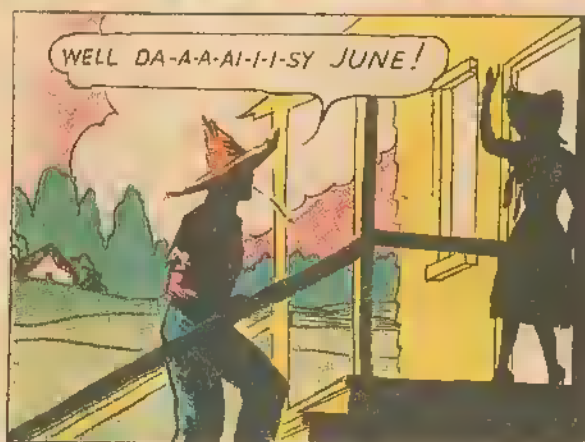
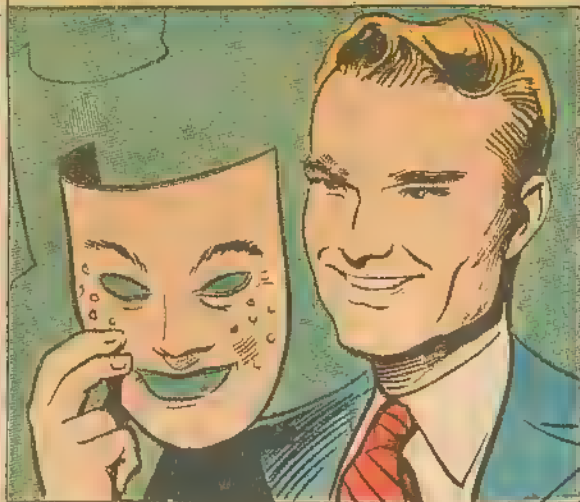


YEAH, I GUESS WE CAN MAKE IT. SURE MR. RALEIGH, WE'LL BE GLAD TO BE ON YOUR PROGRAM.... BUT WHO'S RED SKELTON???

AND SO IT CAME TO PASS...YOUR FAVORITE PROGRAM--THE RALEIGH CIGARETTE HOUR, WITH RED SKELTON, HARRIET HILLIARD AND OZZIE NELSON. AN AVERAGE PROGRAM MIGHT GO SOMETHING LIKE THIS...



RED PLAYS A NUMBER OF CHARACTERS ON THE SHOW, SO THAT AFTER THE ANNOUNCER INTRODUCES HIM, HE AND HIS CAST ACT OUT A NUMBER OF PLAYLETS SHOWING HOW CERTAIN PEOPLE REACT TO CERTAIN SITUATIONS.



HEY MISTER--YOU MADE A MISTAKE, I AIN'T BUD WILLIS.

PARDON ME, I THOUGHT YOU WAS. WELL, TAKE THIS BUTTON AND WEAR IT SO'S I'LL KNOW YOU NEXT TIME

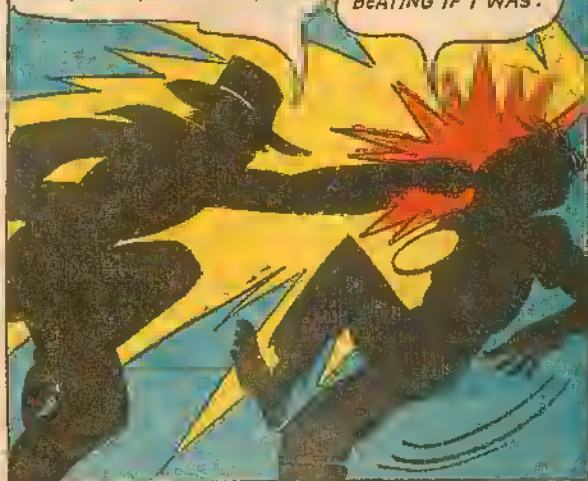


SAY, CAN YOU TELL MEHEY, WAIT A MINUTE, AIN'T YOU BUD WILLIS? I BEEN LOOKIN' A LONG TIME FOR YOU, YOU RAT!

JUST A MINUTE NOW, JUST A MINUTE. SEE, YOU GAVE ME THIS BUTTON TO WEAR SO YOU'D RECOGNIZE ME THE NEXT TIME!

YOU AND YOUR PHONY BUTTONS DON'T FOOL ME, BUD WILLIS... OOPS, SORRY, WRONG GUY, HUH?

GOO--OSH! I'M SURE GLAD I AIN'T BUD WILLIS...I'D BE TAKIN' AN AWFUL BEATING IF I WAS.

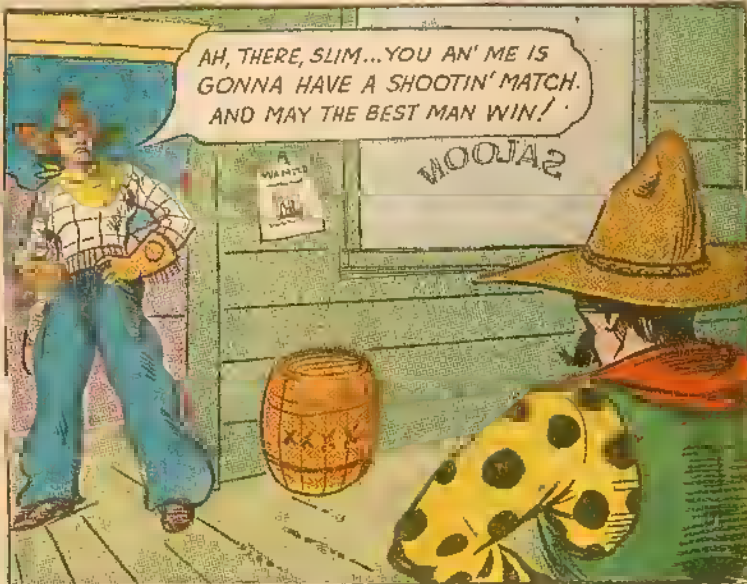


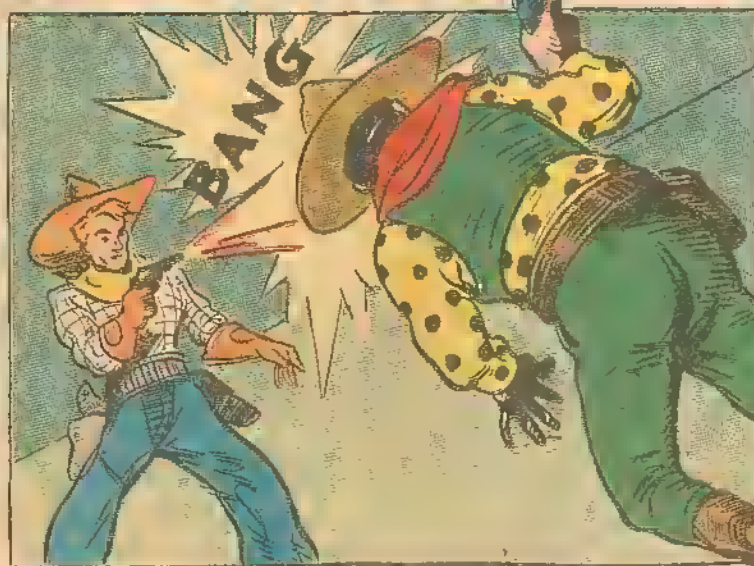
AND SOMETIMES RED PLAYS THE PART OF DEADEYE, THE DESPERATE WESTERN BANDIT.



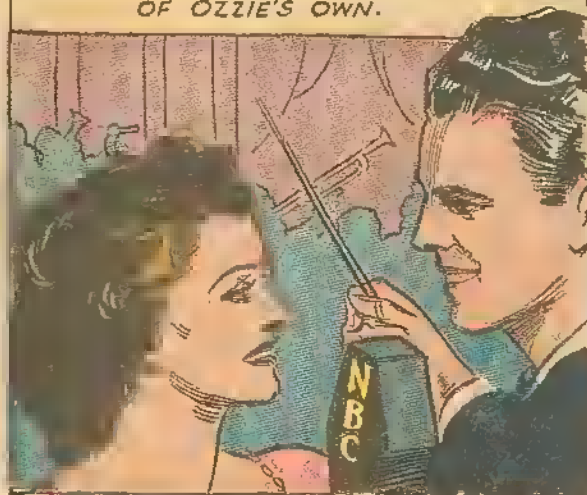
AH, THERE, SLIM...YOU AN' ME IS GONNA HAVE A SHOOTIN' MATCH. AND MAY THE BEST MAN WIN!

WOOLAS





OZZIE NELSON, RED'S BANDEADER, AND VOCALIST HARRIET HILLIARD, DO A NUMBER TOGETHER IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PROGRAM ... SOMETIMES ONE OF OZZIE'S OWN.



AND LET'S NOT FORGET TRUMAN BRADLEY WHO REMINDS YOU TO
Save those Raleigh Coupons.

BUT PERHAPS
RED'S BEST
CHARACTERIZATION
IS THAT OF...

JUNIOR, WHAT ARE YOU--
OH, MY HEAVENS,
HAVE YOU EATEN
THE GOLDFISH??

THERE, THAT'LL TEACH
'EM NOT TO MAKE
FACES AT ME.

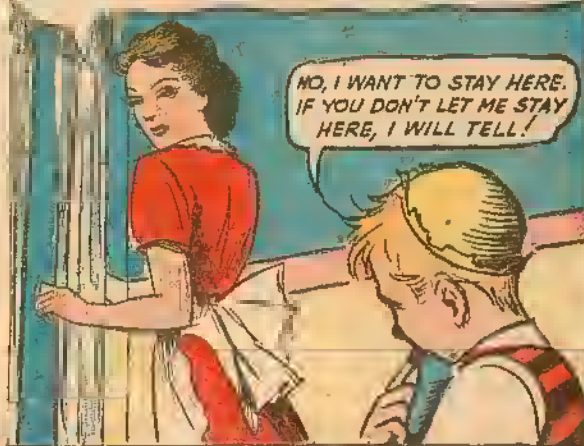


The MEAN
LITTLE BOY



NOW, JUNIOR, YOUR AUNT IS EXPECTING
HER YOUNG MAN TO VISIT HER, AND I
WANT YOU TO GO UPSTAIRS WHEN HE COMES.

NO, I WANT TO STAY HERE.
IF YOU DON'T LET ME STAY
HERE, I WILL TELL!

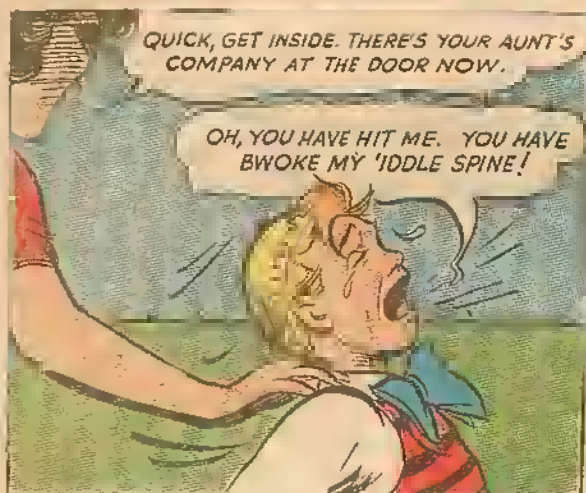
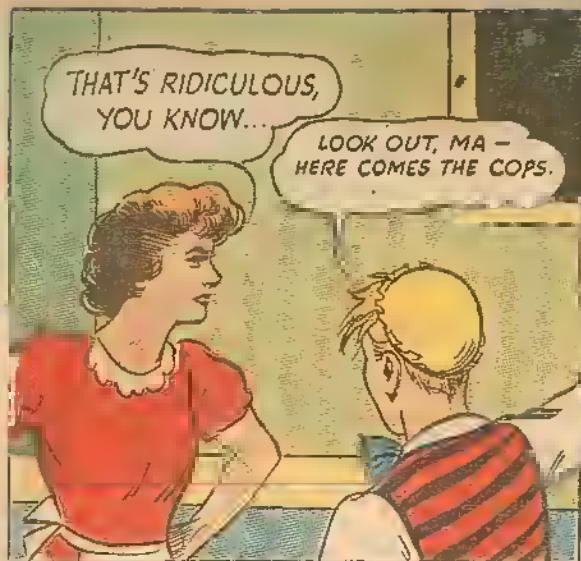


YOU'LL TELL WHAT?



I'LL TELL EVERYBODY
HOW YOU HELP DADDY
PRINT ALL THAT
MONEY DOWN IN
THE CELLAR.





Beebo

of
JUNGLE ISLE
and his
WONDER
HORSE

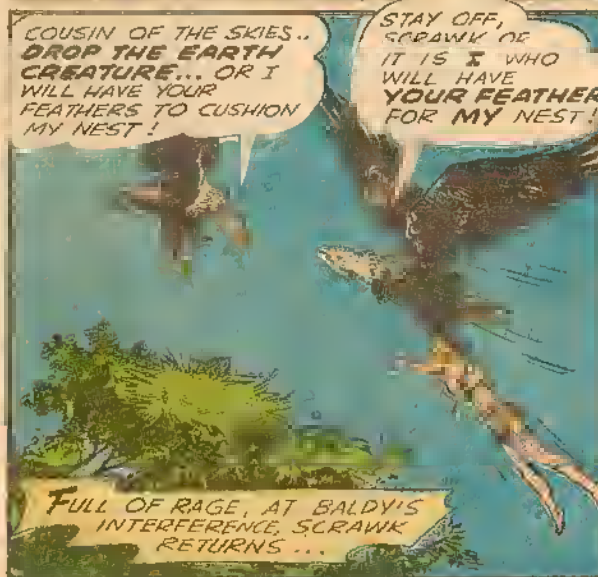
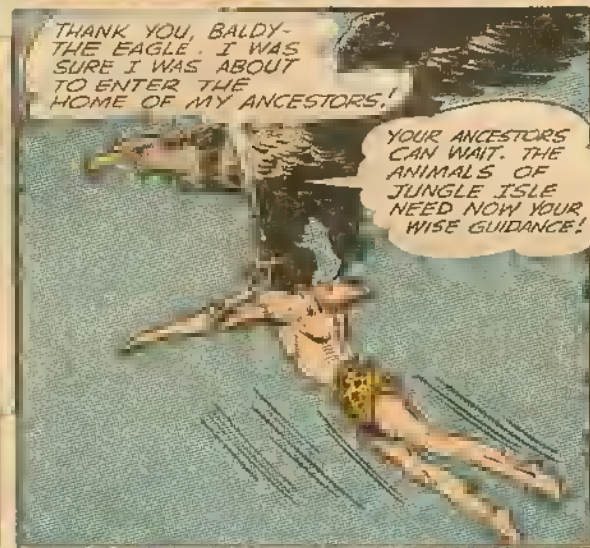
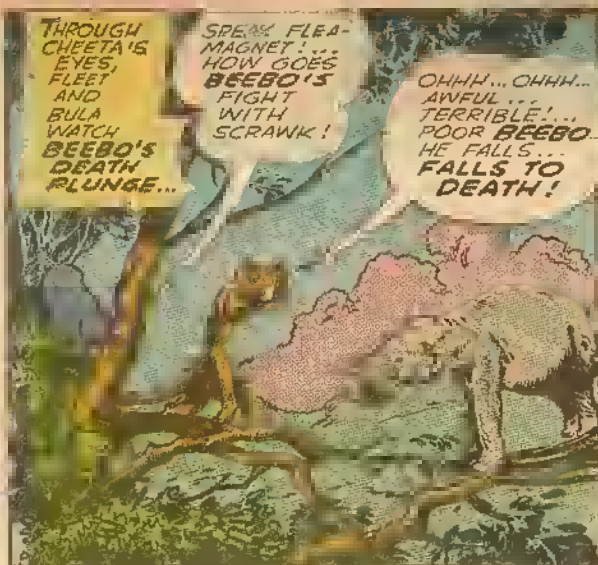
FLEET

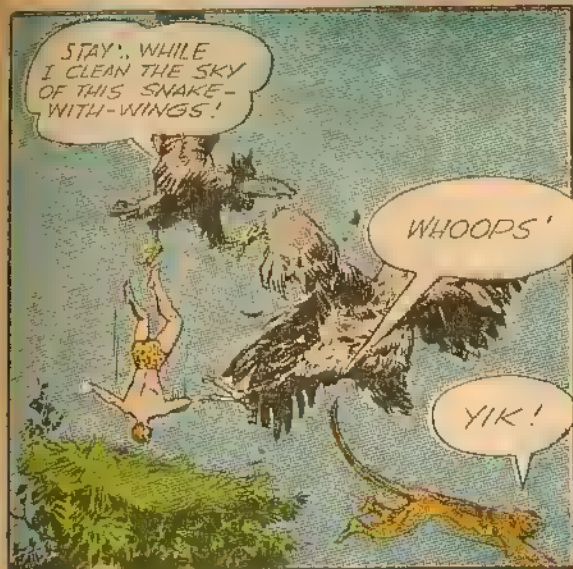
PRE-HISTORIC
INVADER

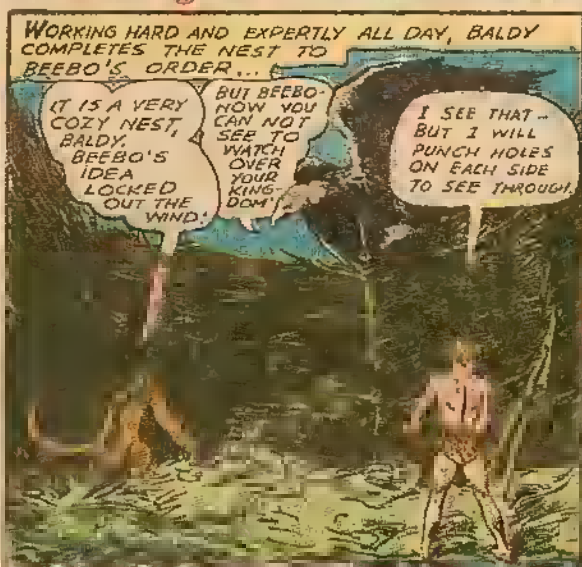
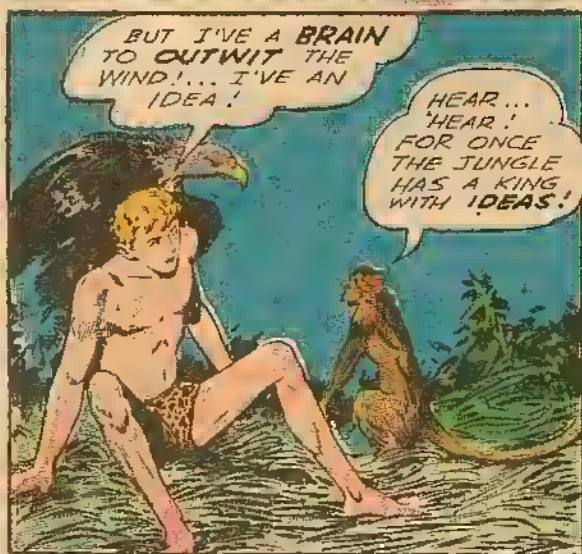
THE HUGE MOUNTAIN WAVE INUNDATING JUNGLE ISLE, RECEDES ALMOST AS QUICKLY AS IT CAME. CAST UPON THE TREE-OF-THE-CLOUDS, BEEBO RECOGNIZES IT AS AN EXCELLENT LOOK OUT POST TO WATCH OVER HIS KINGDOM. BUT SCRAWK, THE CONDOR, REFUSES TO SHARE HIS NEST WITH BEEBO.....

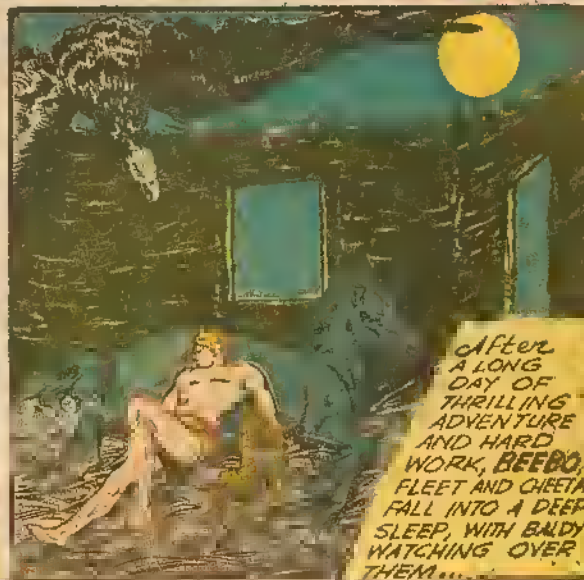
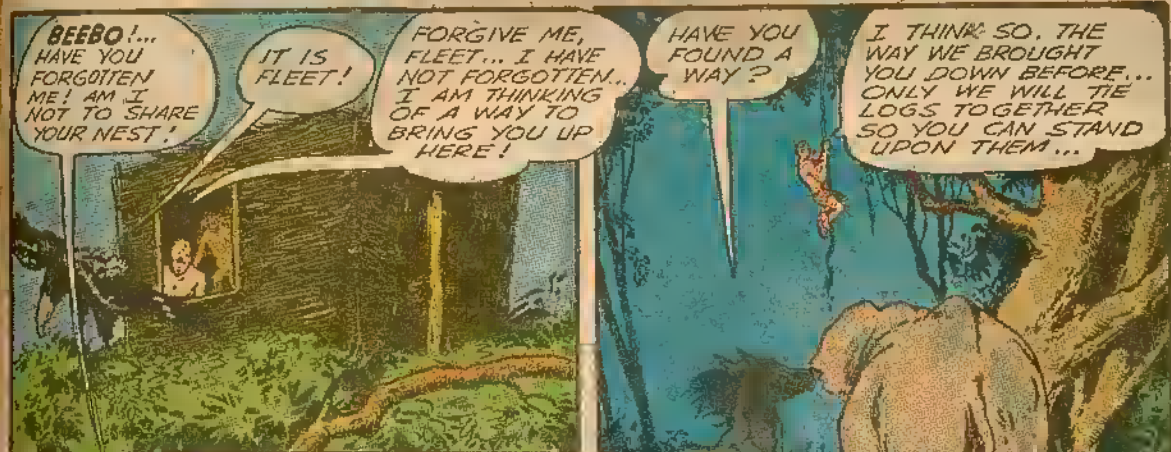
SNATCHING UP THE JUNGLE BOY IN HIS GIANT TALONS, HE SWOOPS HIGH IN THE SKY, FOLDS HIS WINGS AND DIVES LIKE A LIGHTNING STREAK, TO SHAKE BEEBO OFF - TO PLUNGE HIM TO DEATH!











The next morning...

WAKE... WAKE YOU LAZY EARTH CREATURE!... THE SUN WILL BE DOWN BEFORE YOU ARE UP!

YAAAWWWNN!
OUR BODIES
HAD A GREAT
WEARINESS
THAT HAD TO
BE WASHED AWAY
WITH SLEEP!

IN THIS UNSHADED
PLACE, THE SUN IS
LIKE A FIREBALL
HANGING OVER THE
HEAD!

SOON I WILL
STEAM LIKE
THE SWAMP!



*NOTE: BEEBO HAS BUILT WHAT WE KNOW AS A HOUSE. IS IT NOT POSSIBLE THAT MAN CAME TO BUILD HOUSES THROUGH THE SAME NECESSITIES THAT INSPIRED BEEBO?... AND IN MUCH THE SAME MANNER?

ALL DONE!

IT IS
BEAUTIFUL!

THINK!
WHEN
THE
RAINS
COME,
WE
WILL
NOT
GET
WET!



I CAN SEE IT...
WE MUST MAKE
A SHIELD FROM
THE SUN TO GO
OVER OUR HEADS!

AND A GOOD
ONE!... I WILL
GATHER BIG
LEAVES AND
BRANCHES TO
BUILD IT.

A WISE KING,
BEEBO!
ANOTHER IDEA
HE HAS... YIK.
YIK!

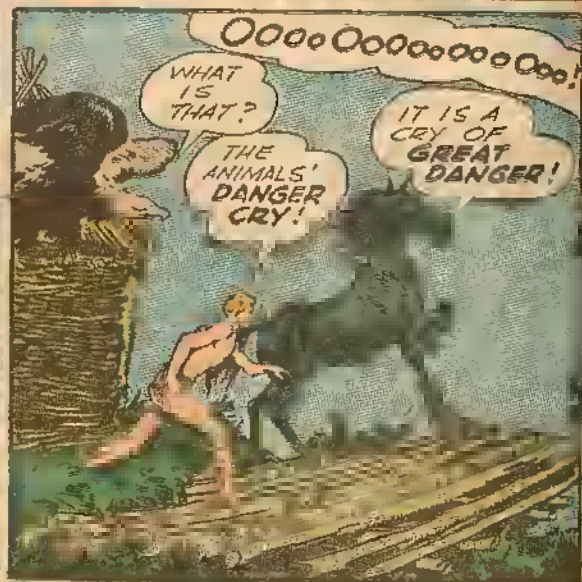


Ooooo Ooooo Ooooo Ooooo

WHAT
IS
THAT?

THE
ANIMALS'
DANGER
CRY!

IT IS A
CRY OF
GREAT
DANGER!

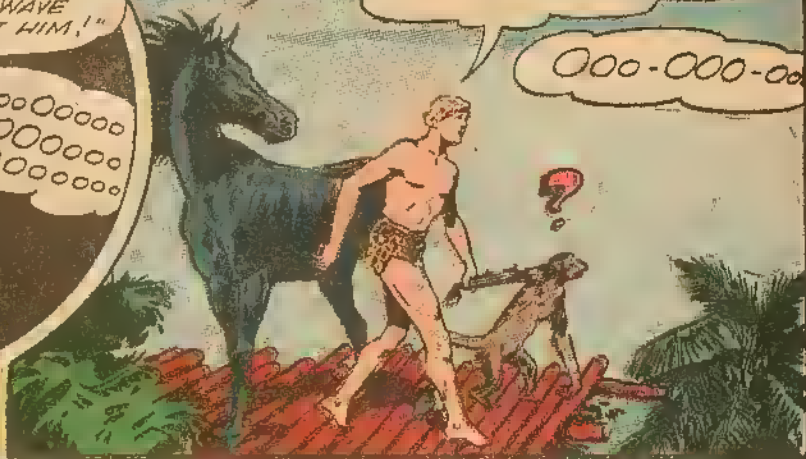


THE MESSAGE SAYS:- "TO JUNGLE ISLE HAS COME A STRANGE CREATURE... HE IS AS BIG AS THE MOUNTAIN, AS TALL AS THIS TREE!... HE LIES ON THE BEACH WHERE THE GIANT WAVE WASHED HIM UP AND LEFT HIM!"

IT SAYS - HE COMES TO LIFE!... HE GETS TO HIS FEET!

WATCH - WE SHOULD SEE HIM FROM HERE!

Ooo-Ooo-Ooo



THERE!... THERE IT IS!

YIK!



THE HORRIBLE-LOOKING, COLOSSUS OF PRE-HISTORIC TIMES REARS ITS UGLY LITTLE HEAD ABOVE THE TREES... ITS BEADY EYES FOCUS ON THE SMALL GROUP ATOP THE TREES OF THE CLOUDS!





KEEPING ITS EYES CENTERED ON THE TREE, IT CRASHES INTO THE JUNGLE, CRUSHING ALL IN ITS WAY!

THE GIGANTIC HOOFS KILL AND DESTROY heedlessly. OONLA, BULA'S SISTER, IS AN EARLY VICTIM!



DON'T ANGER HIM, BEEBO... CAREFUL... CAREFUL!

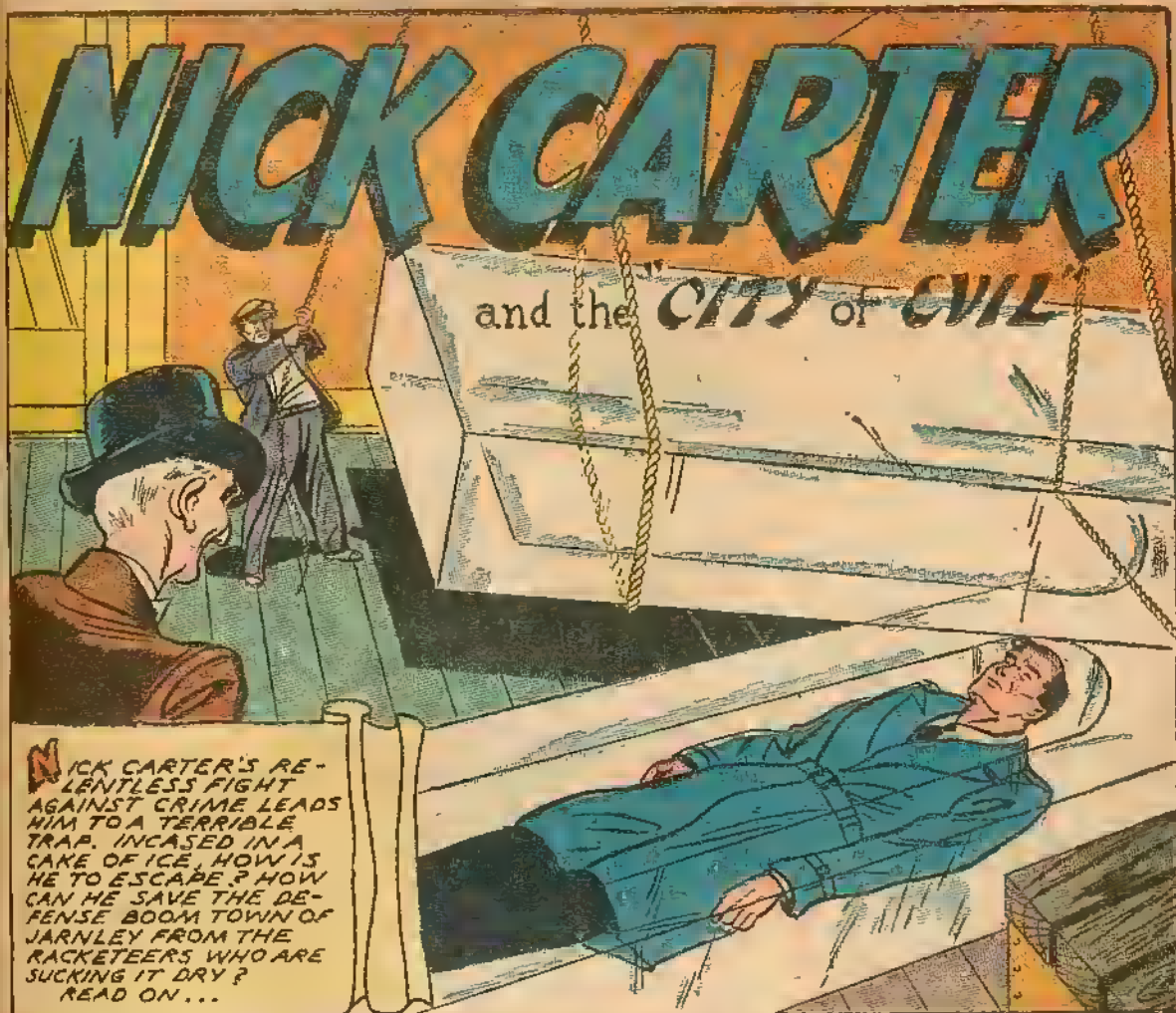
THE GARGANTUAN JAWS OPEN WIDE... A SPEAR-LIKE TONGUE DARTS AT BEEBO!



BEEBO ATTACKS A PRE-HISTORIC MONSTER HUNDREDS OF TIMES HIS SIZE! HERE IS A FIGHT WHERE A BRAINLESS CREATURE - THE DINOSAUR - FIGHTING ONLY BY INSTINCT, MEETS A PRODUCT OF THOUSANDS OF YEARS OF EVOLUTION - BEEBO! CAN THE BRAIN OF MAN OUTWIT THIS MOVING, LIVING, BRAINLESS MACHINE OF INSTINCT?

*NOTE: DO YOU THINK IT UNLIKELY THAT DINOSAURS EXIST TO DATE? DO NOT BE TOO SURE! A GROUP OF SCIENTISTS NOT LONG AGO DISCOVERED AN ISLAND WHERE THEY **STILL LIVE!** POSSIBLY THIS ONE WAS WASHED OFF **THAT ISLAND!**

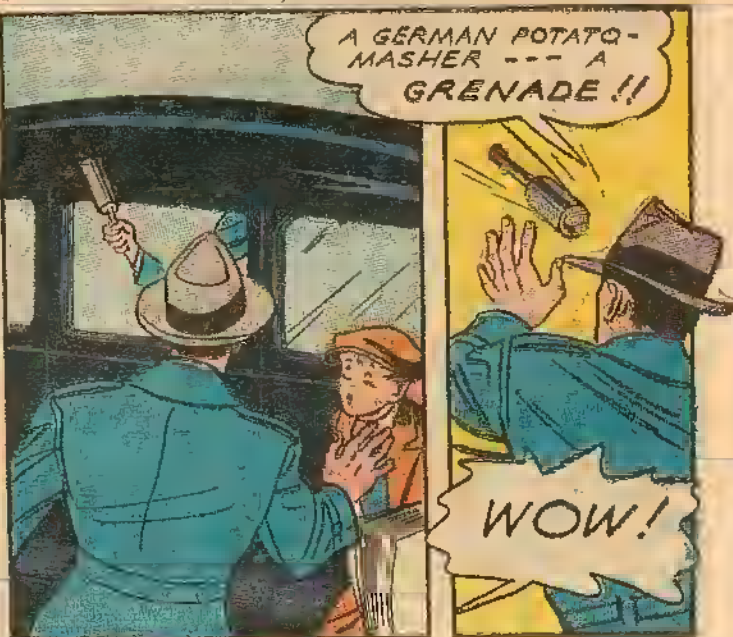
Read the THRILLING OUTCOME IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF **SHADOW COMICS!**

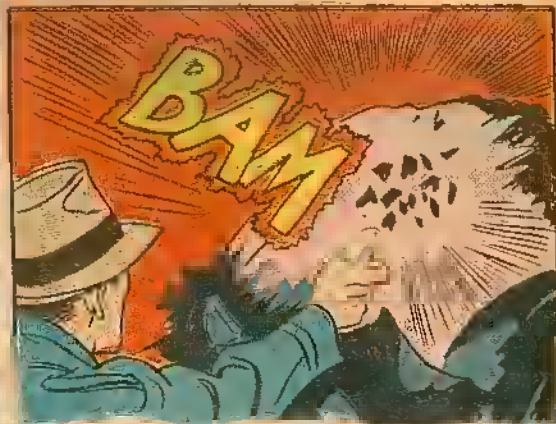
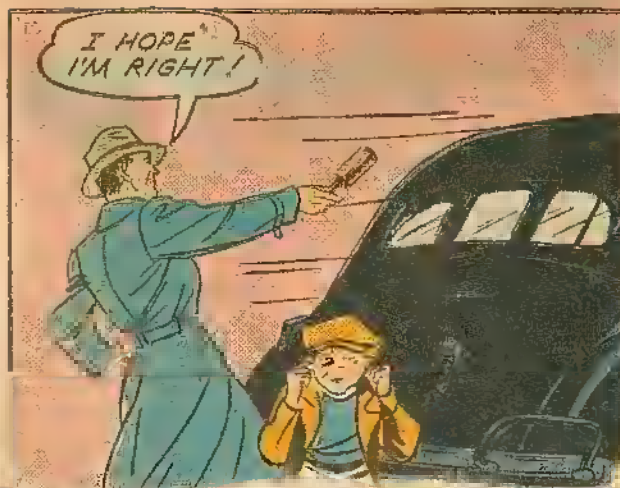


A LETTER CALLING FOR
HELP BRINGS NICK
CARTER TO JARNLEY.

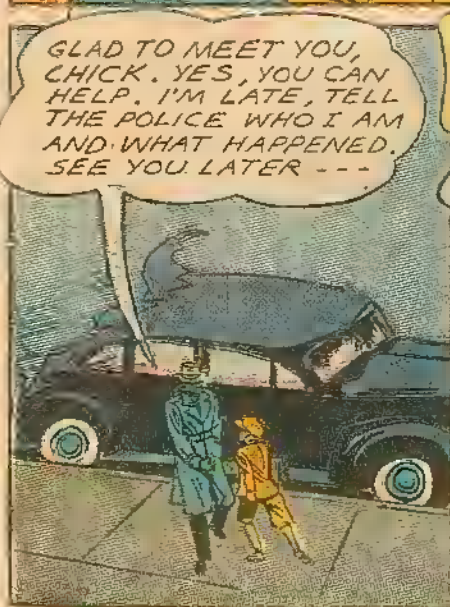
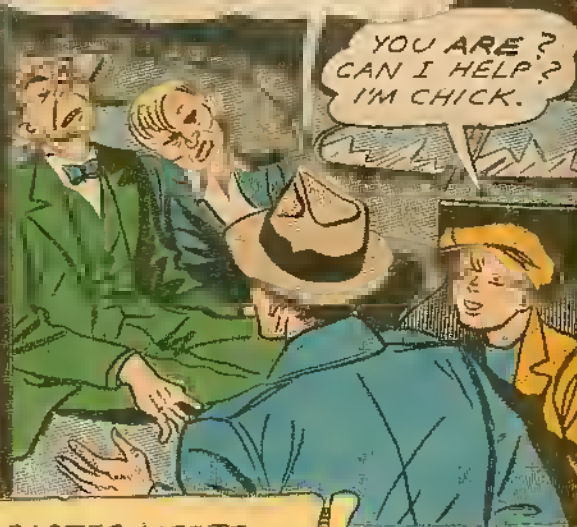


A GERMAN POTATO-
MASHER --- A
GRENADE !!





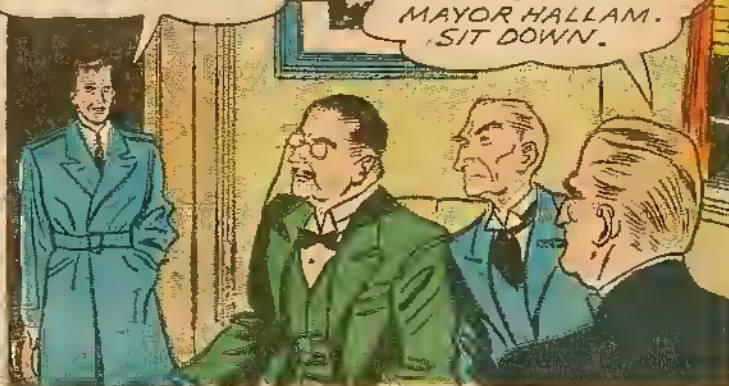
GATS NOLAN AND NUTSY HOOD! A PRETTY PAIR. I THOUGHT THEY WERE STILL IN JAIL. LISTEN, SON, YOU CALL THE COPS. I'M NICK CARTER.



NICK CARTER MEETS THE THREE MOST IMPORTANT MEN IN JARNLEY.

SORRY TO BE LATE. A SLIGHT DISTURBANCE HELD ME UP.

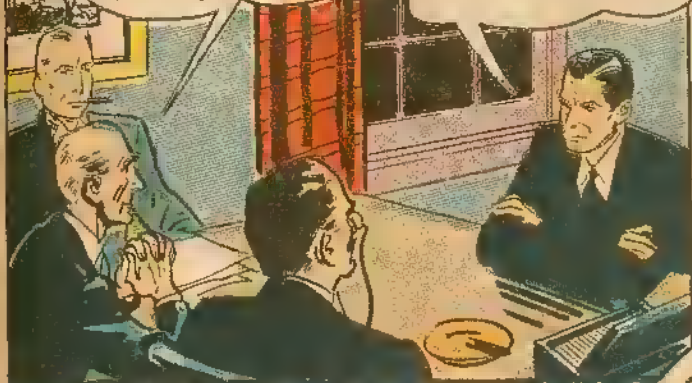
MR. CARTER - MEET MR. ROGERS, HEAD OF OUR BANK - MR. MILES, HEAD OF THE PAROLE BOARD. I'M MAYOR HALLAM. SIT DOWN.



THE TERRIBLE TALE WAS SOON TOLD. RACKETEERS HAD TAKEN THE TOWN OVER...

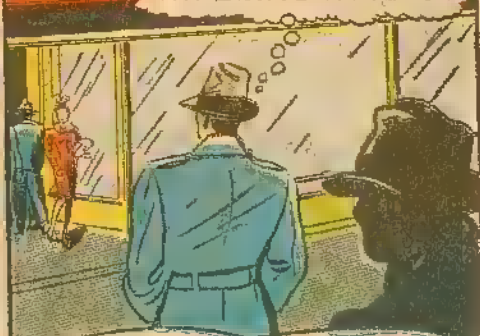
SOMETHING MUST BE DONE. THE POLICE ARE HELPLESS IN THE FACE OF THIS CRIME WAVE.

SO YOU CALLED ME IN TO CLEAN HOUSE FOR YOU. OKAY, IT'S A DEAL.



WICK CARTER HEADED FOR A HOTEL TO PLAN HIS CAMPAIGN.

I HAVE A HUNCH I'M BEING TRAILED.



FIRST TIME I EVER USED THE "POWER OF THE PRESS" THAT'LL HOLD HIM!

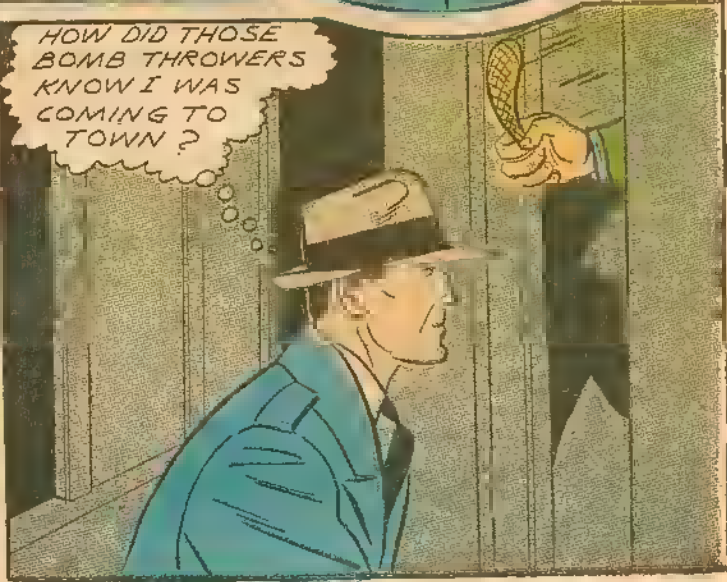
THIS'LL GET RID OF MY TRAILER!

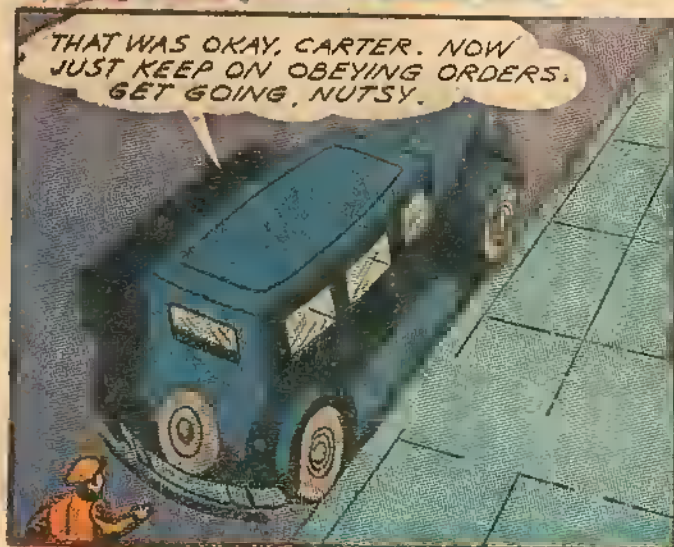
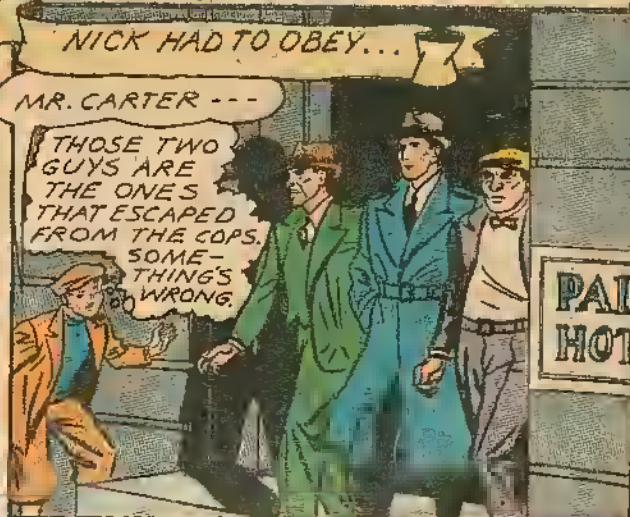
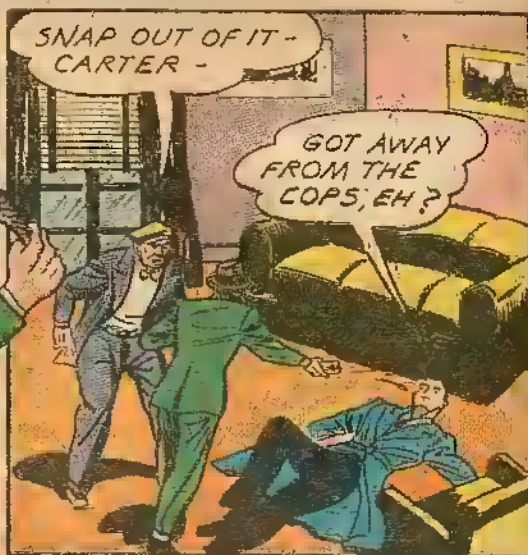
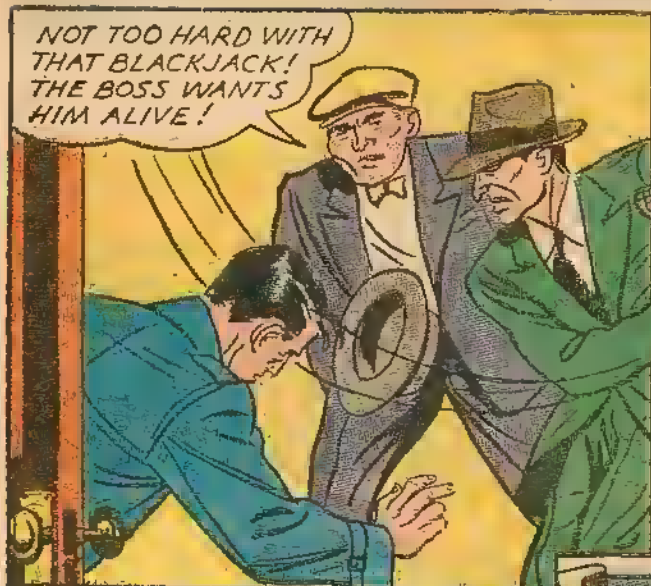


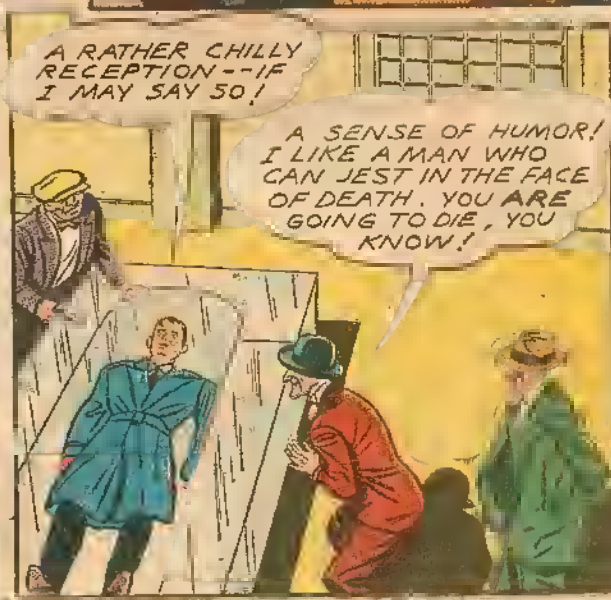
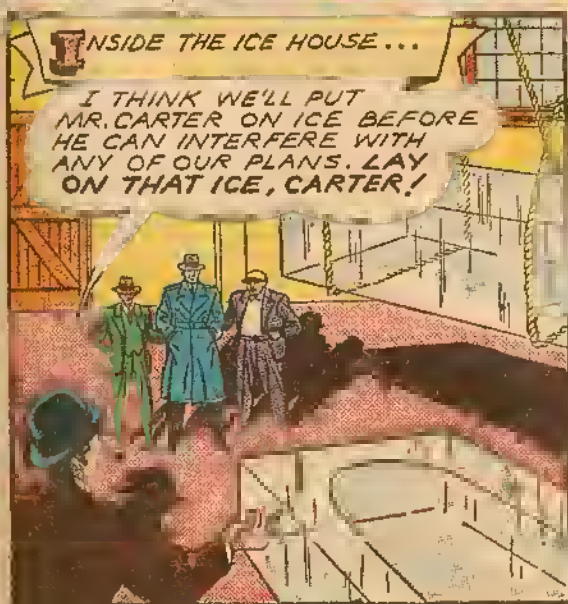
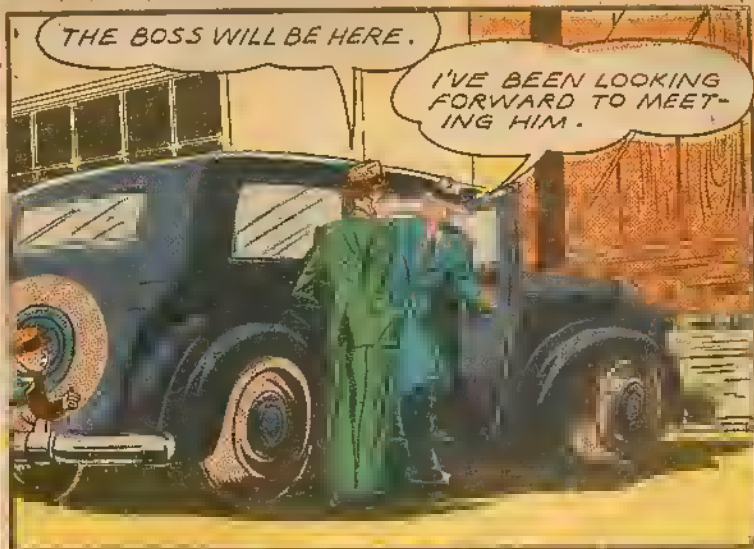
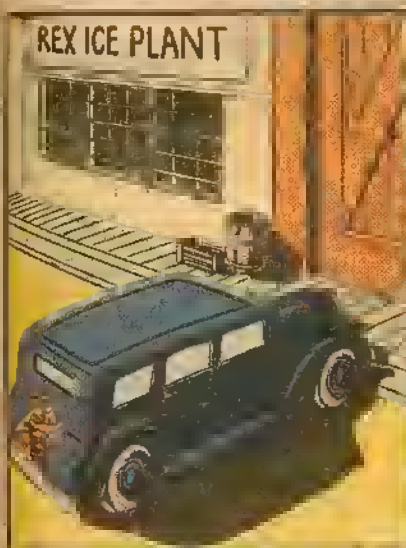
WICK CARTER LEFT THE GANGSTER TRAPPED AND REGISTERED AT THE PALACE HOTEL.

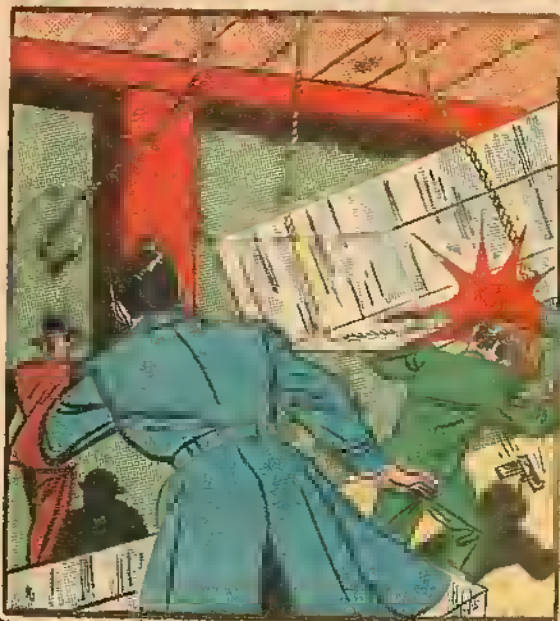
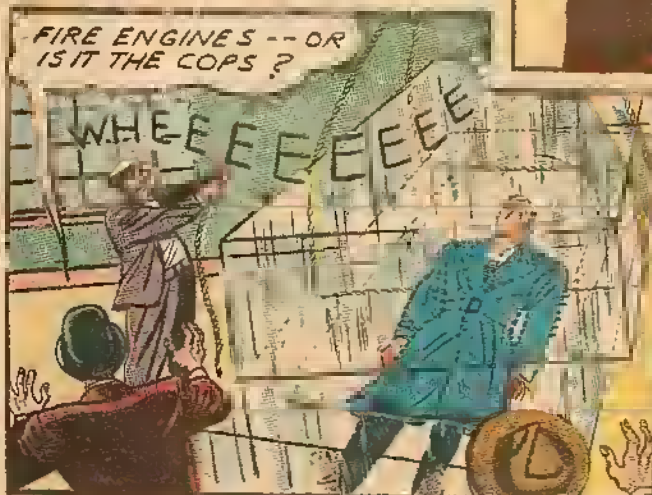
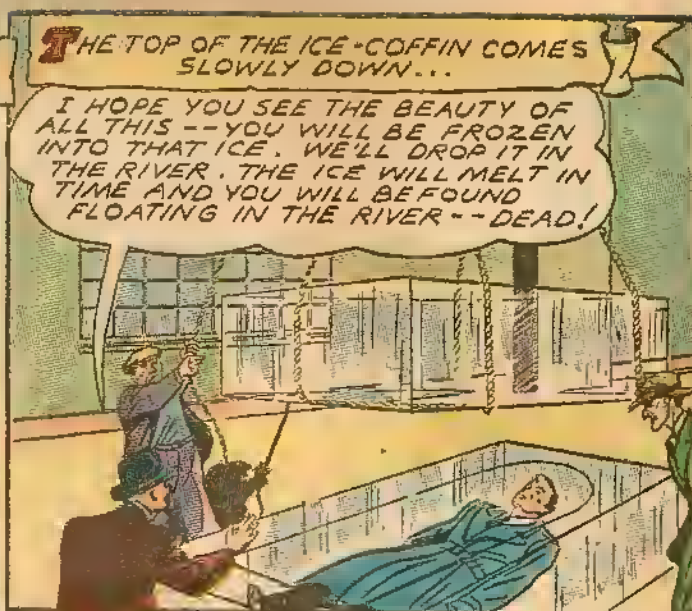
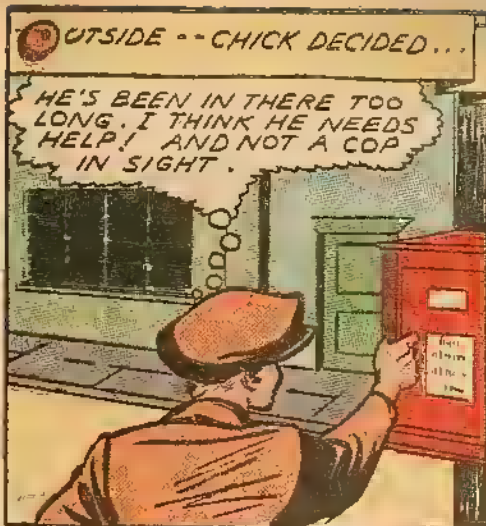


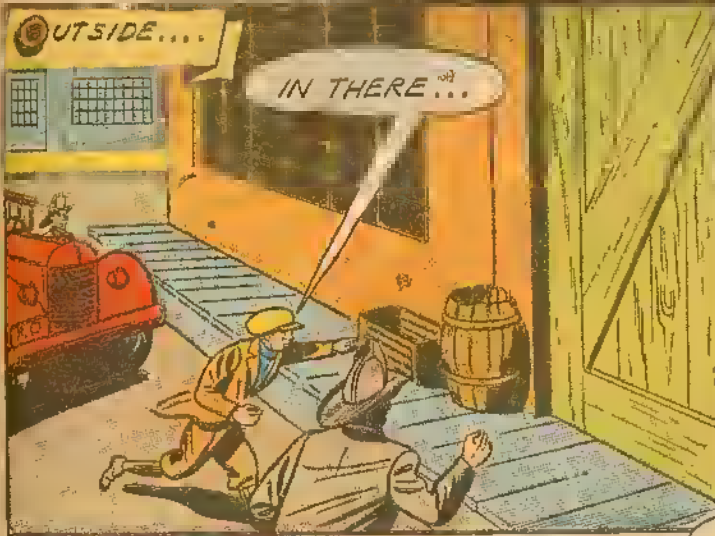
HOW DID THOSE BOMB THROWERS KNOW I WAS COMING TO TOWN?







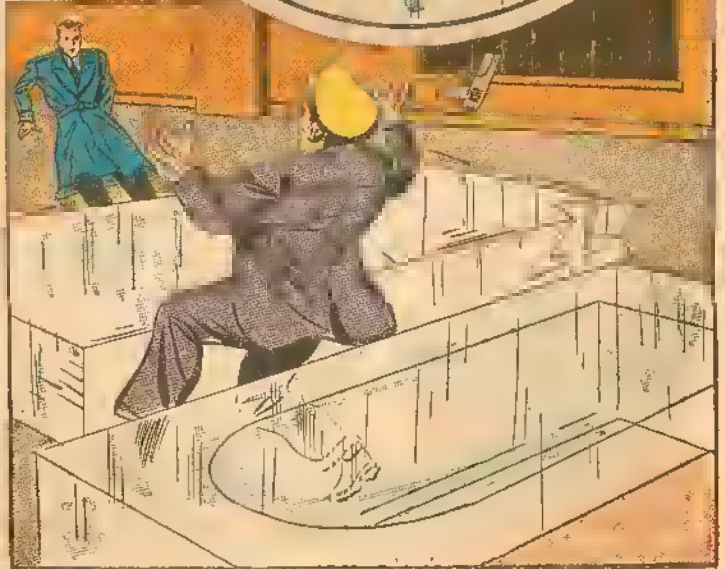


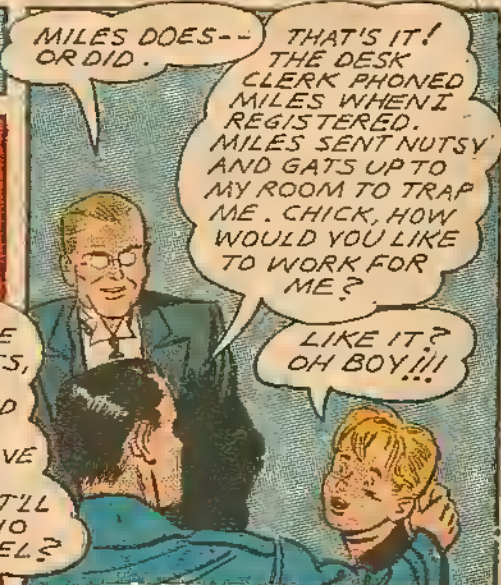
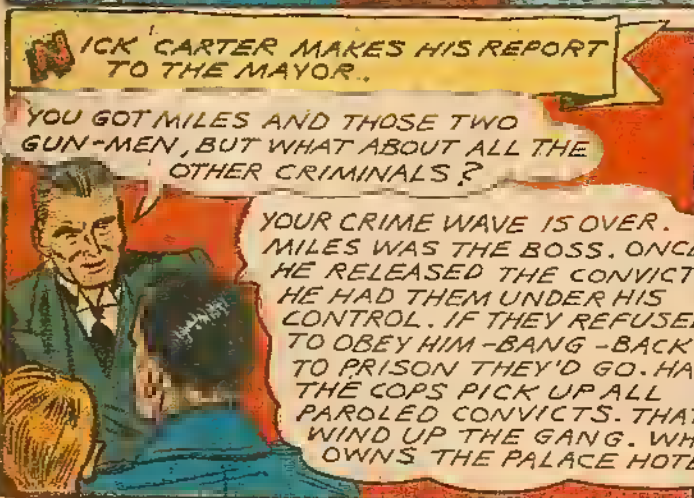
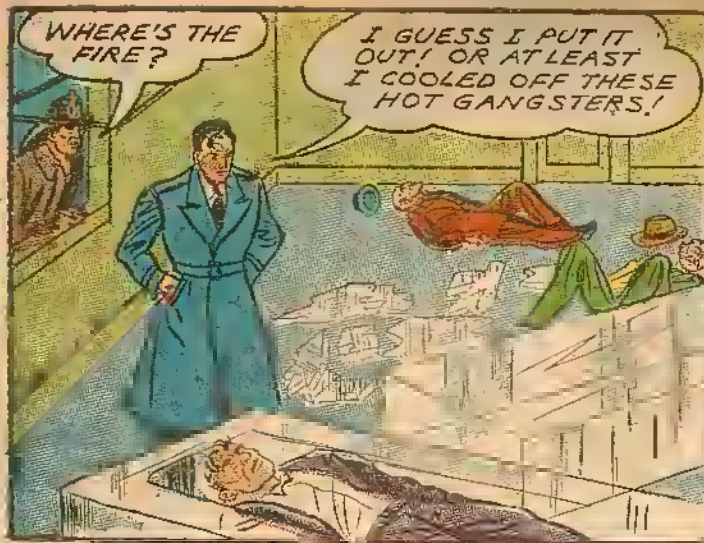


NUTSY FIRED AT NICK
CARTER, BUT MISSED



THAT WAS LEFTY-
WISE GUY - SEE IF
I MISS WITH MY
RIGHT HAND!





The HOODED WASP

AND THE
SHIPWRECK
MAGNET!



A RUTHLESS MENACE HAS RISEN FROM THE UNDERWORLD; A MAD GENIUS WHOSE LUST AND GREED ARE BEYOND THE CALL OF PATRIOTISM. HE IS "THE FLAME" ... A SCIENTIFIC WIZARD WHOSE INVENTIONS OF DESTRUCTION ARE A CHALLENGE TO THE POWER OF... THE HOODED WASP!

A CARGO SHIP LOADED WITH PRECIOUS COFFEE, ENCOUNTERS A SQUALL SOMEWHERE OFF THE CAROLINA COAST...

YOU'RE TWO POINTS OFF YOUR COURSE, MISTER JONES... SWING HER TO!

SHE WON'T SWING, SIR! I'VE BEEN TRYING TO GET HER BACK FOR THE LAST FIVE MINUTES!

WON'T SWING? YOU'RE CRAZY, MAN... HERE LET ME TRY... HMM... SOMETHING IS WRONG! SHE WON'T BUDGE AN INCH EITHER WAY!

IT'S LIKE A VICE HAS HOLD OF HER, SIR. IF WE DON'T SWING HER FAST... WE'LL PILE UP ON THOSE REEFS AHEAD!

MAN THE LIFEBOATS!

AVE AVE, SIR!



YOUR SUPER ELECTRO-
MAGNET WORKED JUST
LIKE YOU SAID, FLAME!
IT STEERED THAT

SHIP RIGHT
INTO THE ROCKS!

AND THIS
IS JUST THE
FIRST SHIP!

SOON WE'LL HIJACK
ALL THE COFFEE AND
SUGAR COMING TO THE
STATES! WE'LL FORCE EVEN
THE GOVERNMENT TO BUY
FROM OUR BLACK MARKET!

AND THEN THE HIJACKERS MACHINE GUN
THE CREW WITHOUT WARNING!

AWK!

UGH!

EXCELLENT... EXCELLENT!
ALL DEAD AND NO ONE ALIVE
TO RECOUNT HOW IT HAPPENED!
HAVE THE COFFEE UNLOADED!
THE TRUCKS ARE WAITING!

RIGHT,
FLAME!

DAILY PRESS
**MISSING SHIP
FOUND WRECKED
ON REEFS!**
COFFEE CARGO
HIJACKED...
CREW
MURDERED!

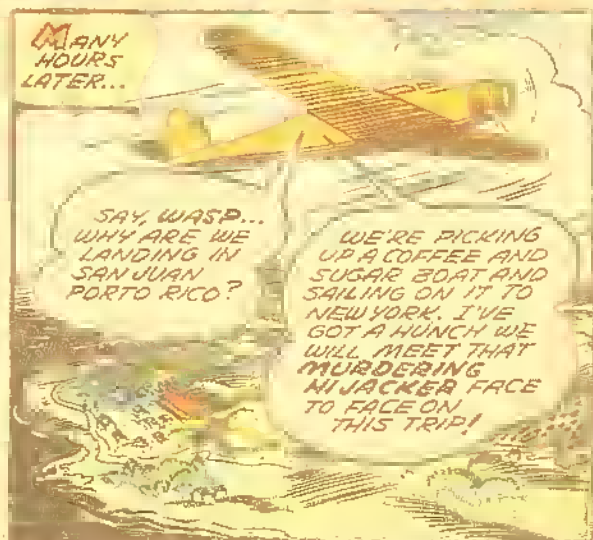
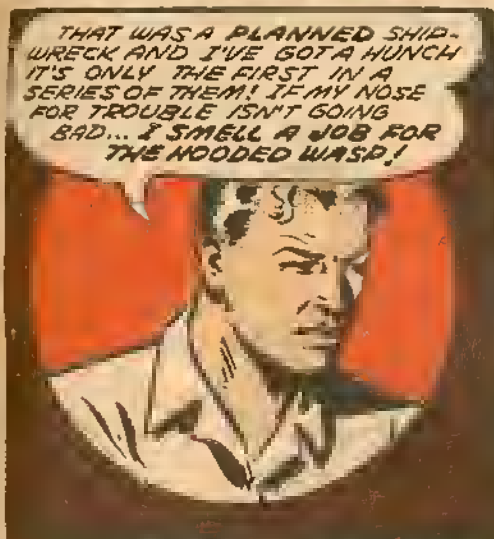
OFF THE CAROLINA COAST
THE LIBERTY SHIP BANTON
RAN AFOUL ON SOME
TREACHEROUS REEFS LAST
WEEK. EVIDENTLY THE
CREW REACHING SHORE,
WERE MURDERED BY
WAITING MACHINE GUNS.
THE SHIP WAS THEN
STRIPPED OF ITS CARGO
OF COFFEE....

ON THE HOME OF THE HOODED WASP...

JUVIN' JAMBO!..
DIDJA SEE
THIS HEADLINE?

HOLD IT FOR
LATER, BABE...
I THINK I GOT
THE WASP
CHECKMATE!

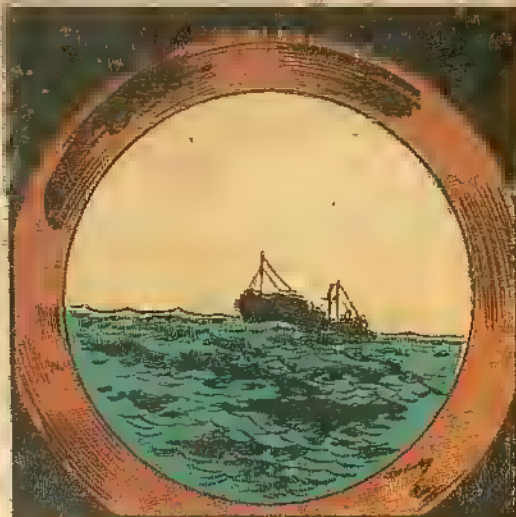
DON'T
BE TOO SURE,
WASPLET!



TWO AND A HALF DAYS LATER AS EVENING APPROACHES... SOMEWHERE OFF THE GEORGIA COAST....

WELL, WASP... NOTHING'S HAPPENED YET AND THE CAPTAIN SWEARS WE'LL BE IN NEW YORK BY FRIDAY!

I HOPE HE'S RIGHT ... BY THAT NOSE OF MINE SMELLS TROUBLE STRONGER BY THE MINUTE!

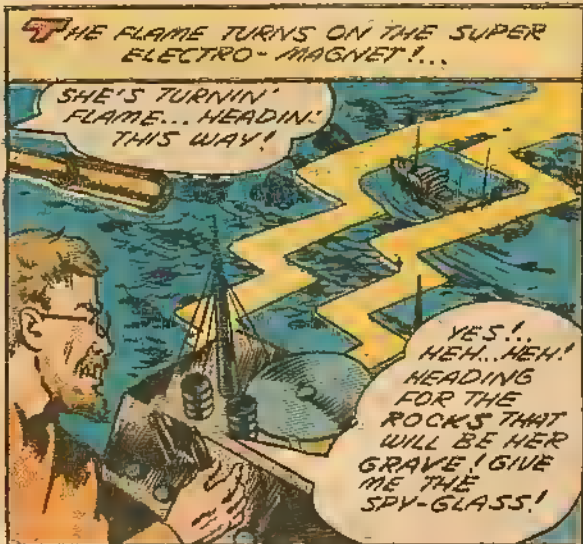


AT THIS VERY MOMENT, A SPY-GLASS IS TRAINED ON THE SHIP...



IT'S THE SHIP YOU'VE BEEN WAITIN' FOR, FLAME!

GOOD!.. AND NOW MY ELECTRO-MAGNET WILL BRING IT TO AN UNEXPECTED PORT!



THE FLAME TURNS ON THE SUPER ELECTRO-MAGNET!...

SHE'S TURNIN' FLAME... HEADIN' THIS WAY!

YES!.. HEH... NEH! HEADING FOR THE ROCKS THAT WILL BE HER GRAVE! GIVE ME THE SPY-GLASS!



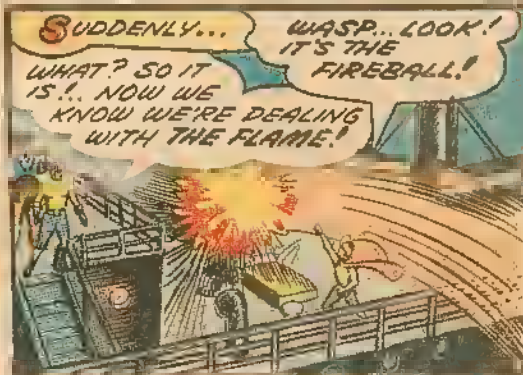
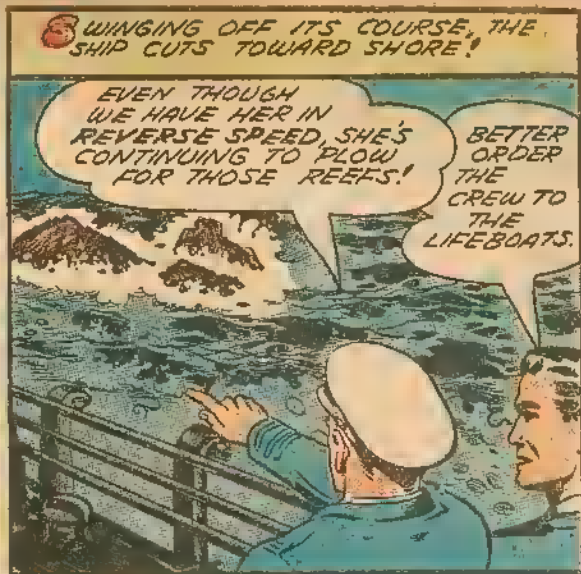
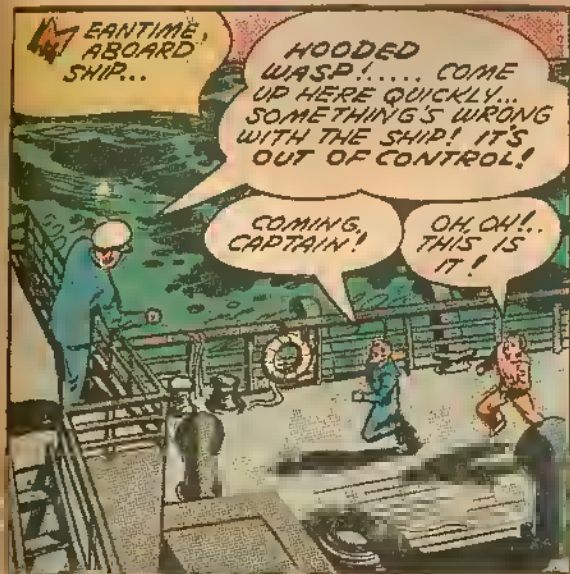
THE HOODED WASP!

YOU... YOU'RE KIDDIN'!..

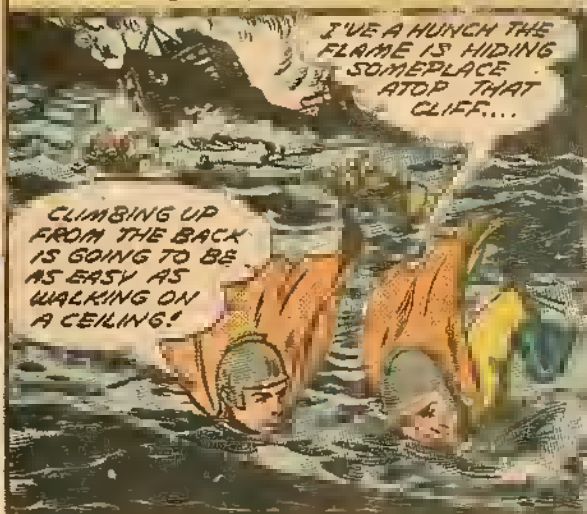


I'M GETTIN' OUT OF HERE! DAT GUY'S POISON!

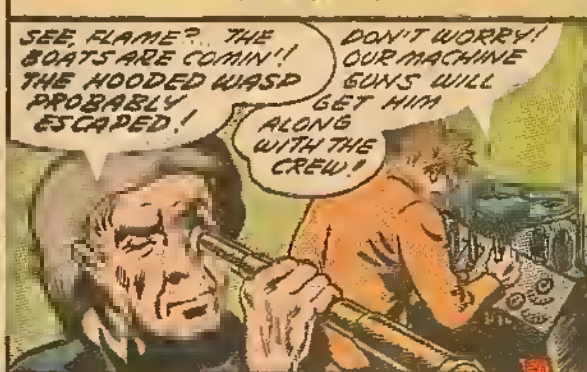
SHUT UP AND LISTEN! I'VE TOLD YOU A HUNDRED TIMES... THE WASP IS NO MATCH FOR ME! TO PROVE IT... I'M GOING TO KILL HIM... NOW!



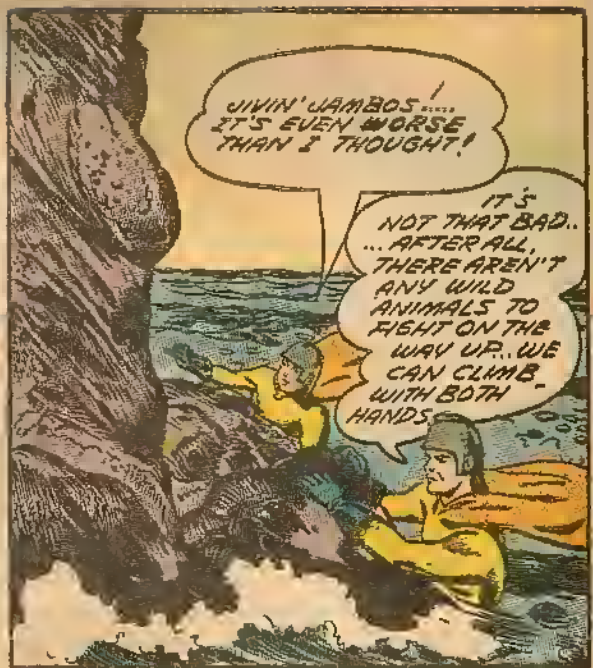
AS NIGHT FALLS, WASP AND WASPLET STRIKE OUT FOR SHORE...

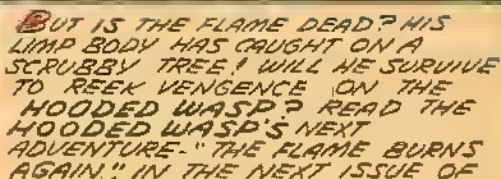
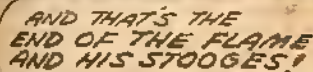
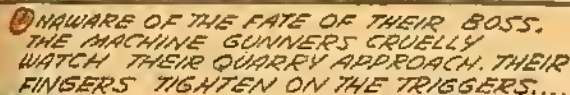
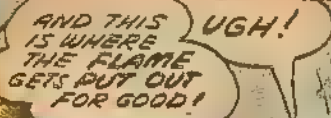
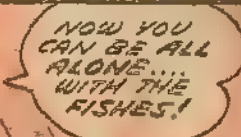


THE FLAME AND HIS STOOGES WATCH THE LIFEBOATS AS THEY MOVE SLOWLY THROUGH THE DARK TOWARDS SHORE....



FEW MINUTES LATER, THE FLAME'S BITTERY STOOGES NERVOUSLY LOOKS BEHIND HIM AND SEES....





SHADOW COMICS!



BY WILLIAM G. BOGART

Officer Pat Harmon had his own name for it. He called his beat the Central Park Detail. For a guy with ambitions—to be a detective, first grade—it was pretty tough to have to cover the same grounds each night. In the distance you could see the lights of Fifth Avenue or Central Park West. People were over there. Things were happening.

Pat Harmon saw the coupé parked up one of the dead-end side lanes. He'd have to chase the couple parked there, too. Some of them thought they could stay here all night!

The patrolman was still some distance away when he heard a voice raised in the parked car. It sounded like the man was arguing. Pat Harmon listened for the girl's answer. He didn't hear it.

The shot crashed out and rocked him back on his heels, so sudden was its loud report in the quiet hours of the night. He heard someone cry out. Then a car door slammed. Someone was running.

Pat Harmon was running, too, his hand going to his service holster, a glint leaping into his blue eyes. This was something different than a couple merely parked after hours.

He swerved toward the car, still aware that footsteps were thudding in the darkness somewhere near it. He also yanked out his flash.

The coupé was parked beneath low-hanging trees. A man was seated behind the wheel.

He was sitting there dead!

The flashlight beam revealed that in a split second. It also showed Pat Harmon the gun still clutched in the man's left hand, the bullet hole that gun had made in the man's left temple, and the papers that were scattered on the seat beside the dead man.

At the same time, Pat Harmon realized with a start, the running footsteps were fast fading in the distance!

Not far away was busy Fifth Avenue. A

man could reach the street and quickly merge with the people moving up and down there. He would be lost!

This was the thought that added speed to Pat Harmon's steps. The blurry figure ahead was only a dozen yards away when Pat Harmon raised the .38 and yelled, "Halt!"

The man dived behind a clump of shrubs. His running steps ceased.

Wary of a trick, the cop slowed, approached the bushes at an angle. He wished there were more light. He could hardly see a thing now.

He circled the entire area, paused, stared around, puzzled. His quarry had disappeared.

Remembering the dead man in the car, he started back that way. The stockily built man, who had blurred with the shadows of a tree trunk, stepped out suddenly, swung, hit the patrolman alongside the jaw with a surprise blow.

But he was only stunned for a moment. Harmon picked himself up, shook his head. Some distance away he saw the man dashing across an open area near one of the through auto driveways that wound through the park.

Suddenly the man hit something and fell. He tumbled, rolled, started running again—this time with a decided limp. He had reached the roadway now. A car was approaching. The man paused, waved down the driver. An instant later the car stopped. Apparently the driver thought it was just someone looking for a lift out of the park. The car started off again.

Pat Harmon drew up, stared off grimly into the silent night. The man was gone, and there was no possible way of finding him!

Later—it was almost dawn—they had the death car down there in the police garage and the photographers and print men had departed. Only a couple of headquarters dicks still hung around. One was saying to Officer Pat Har-

mon:

He said, "Look, girlie, there's something I'd like to know—" and he started talking quietly.

A few moments later he went back into Evarts' office. The man was still standing there behind the desk. Harmon wondered about that. He said, "There's something I want to get here," and stared around the room. He was thinking of the thing he had taken from the death car, and of what he wanted now to go with it.

His gaze paused on the water cooler in the corner of the office, and suddenly he stepped that way. There was a glass tumbler atop the cooler. Harmon picked it up and stepped across to the window. He held the glass by the base, turned it slowly in the sunlight. He saw the almost perfect thumbprint on the side of the glass.

Taking the small card from his pocket, he compared the prints. His eyes sharpened.

Evarts had started angrily from behind the desk just as Pat Harmon turned. He gave a decided limp, caught himself, paused at the corner of the desk.

Harmon's pulse leaped. He remembered the wire that had been stretched, at knee height, across the park lawn where it adjoined the auto driveway. He remembered how his assailant of the night before had tripped over that wire. And now—Evarts was limping!

He said, "Let's figure it this way, Evarts. Your partner was an ill man. He had reason to be discouraged because business was bad, also. On top of that, the guy's wife wanted to divorce him. But he wouldn't agree. Perhaps he suspected that she wanted to marry you."

"Listen—" Evarts started angrily.

"Shut up!" said Harmon, and continued, "Last night you and Marshall got together to talk it over. He hasn't been driving much lately because of his heart. *You* drove the car. You parked up there in a quiet part of the park

—and you got into an argument. *You* shot him!" Evarts snarled, "That's a lie. I wasn't even in that car—"

Harmon smiled grimly. "Ah, but you were. You sat at the wheel. Thus the bullet hole was in Marshall's left temple. Then you shoved him over behind the wheel, spread those old bills and notes around, and started to scam. That's when I came in. I can *prove* you were in that car, and driving—"

This time Evarts ignored his injured leg. He flung out from behind the desk. He must have lifted the gun from the desk drawer. He was trembling.

"You smart cop!" he cried, and leaped toward Pat Harmon.

The rest was somewhat chaotic. The man's first shot was wild. Harmon knocked the gun aside on the second. From then on he just held the stocky man and started working him over with his bare fists. In the other office the blonde was screaming. Then cops started arriving.

Later, when one of the detectives from headquarters arrived, Pat Harmon explained, "Marshall was a tall man. So when Evarts, here"—he looked at the bloody-faced man in the chair—"when Evarts drove the car, he had to readjust the small rear-view mirror because of his height. He had to tilt it *down*. In doing so, he left a perfect thumbprint on the mirror. I've got the mirror and a copy of that print. It compares with one over there on the glass." He nodded toward the water cooler.

Harmon finished, "So that places Evarts in the car and behind the wheel—right in position to shoot Marshall in the left side of the head." He looked at the headquarters man, added, "Your men ought to be more careful about finding *all* the clues at a murder scene."

Pat Harmon had no doubt at all that he had little longer to prowl that blasted *park* beat.

THE END.

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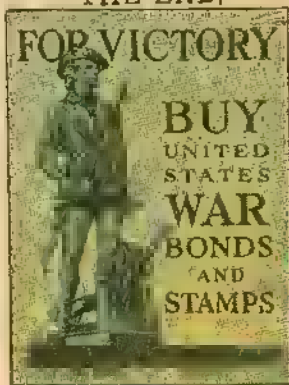
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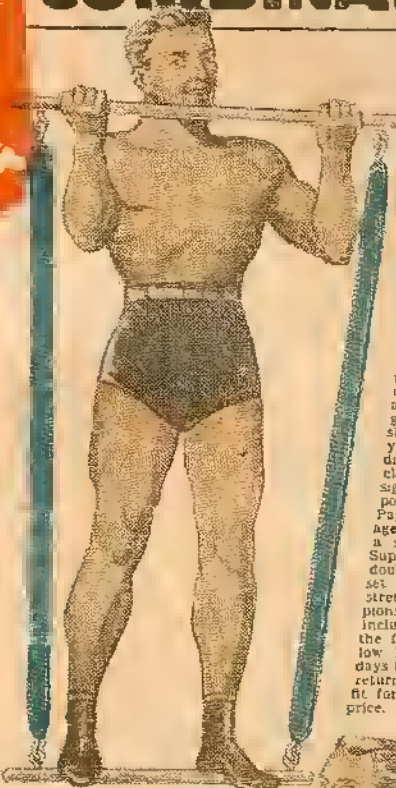
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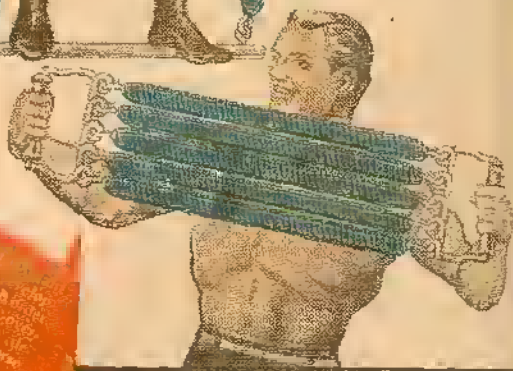
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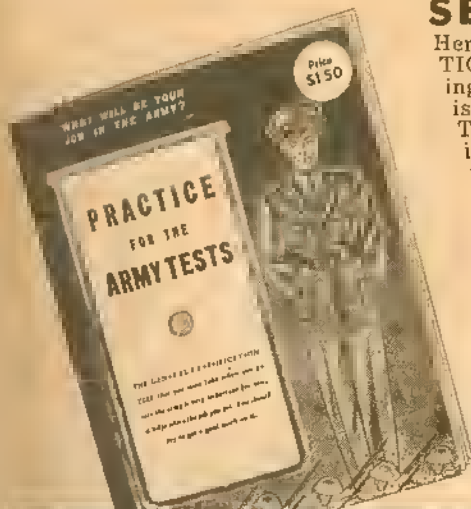
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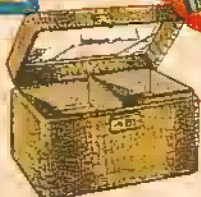
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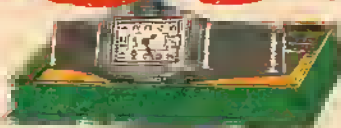
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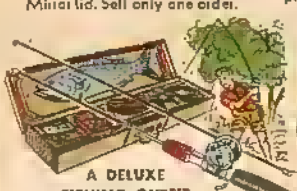
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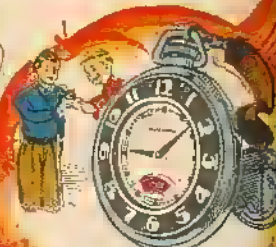
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